

# How to prep your Florida lawn for fall

# Do you want to have a good-looking lawn next spring? Start with good lawn care this fall!

The weather is getting a little bit cooler, and the days are getting shorter — that's how you know it's almost fall here in Central Florida. Even if you don't notice the change in temperature right away, your lawn is noticing the transition from a growth phase to dormancy. While cold fronts may be infrequent in early fall, one ill-timed cold spell can do damage to your lawn if it isn't properly prepared. Our lawn maintenance experts are here with advice on how to get your Central Florida lawn ready for fall weather.

### Tip #1: Switch up your lawn mowing schedule

With the sun setting earlier, you may notice less growth from October to March as your lawn gets less sunlight. This is the Sunshine State, so you'll still need to break out the lawn mower from time to time. It's important adjust your lawn mowing schedule to ensure that your grass can maintain new growth no matter the season. Consider mowing twice a month to maintain an ideal height of two-and-a-half to three inches.

#### Tip #2: Time to fertilize

There's conflicting information about whether you should fertilize your Florida lawn in the fall. With 50 years of experience, our quality landscaping professionals have determined that fall means it's time to fertilize. Fertilizing your lawn in fall allows the grass to absorb essential nutrients that will help keep it healthy and green in the cooler months to come. It also keeps the roots strong and ready to grow when spring comes around.

Need help with fertilization? Learn more about our new Lawn & Pest program here.

## Tip #3: Don't stop watering

Speaking of fertilizer, regular watering helps your fertilizer penetrate the soil more effectively. Lower levels of heat and humidity in autumn can lead many people to stop watering their grass, but that's not something we recommend. Keeping a regular watering schedule can help your lawn recover from the stress of the summer heat and help keep it alive when temperatures drop in the winter. Knowing how much water your lawn needs can make yard maintenance easier all year.

An easy way to keep track of your lawn's water levels and ensure that it's receiving about one inch per week is to invest in a simple rain gauge.

#### Tip #4: Keep weeds and pests at bay

Weeds and insects can have growth spurts in the summer just like your grass, and fall is the perfect time to get rid of both lawn nuisances. Killing weeds is easier in the fall because they'll better absorb any weed killer that's applied. You'll also have better luck with pest removal during this season because they're considered dormant in the cooler weather. It's important to stop weeds and pests in their tracks this fall so they won't come back in spring.

RLC's Lawn & Pest program can take the guess work out of getting rid of weeds and pests with EPA-approved products applied by certified technicians.

Taking care of your lawn during the unpredictable fall weather can ensure a healthy yard later in the year. If you don't want the stress of caring for your property's grounds this season, let us give your lawn a little bit of RLC.

From routine grounds maintenance to irrigation system installation or upkeep, the qualified team at RLC Landscaping is here for every step of your landscaping journey. If you're looking for a quality landscaping partner you can trust, give us a call today at 407-366-5629 or click <u>here</u> to request a quote.