

Fertilizing Your Lawn

The best way to know how much fertilizer your lawn needs is by having a soil test. The test can save you time and money by telling you if you need to fertilize, what type of fertilizer to use, and how much your lawn needs.

- Fertilize your lawn every year.
- Use fertilizers with at least 50% of the nitrogen in a slow-release form and that are low in phosphorus (the middle number in the NPK formula listed on the bag).
- **Several applications are better than one.** The ideal schedule is:
 - 1) Around Memorial Day
 - 2) Around 4th of July
 - 3) Around Labor Day
 - 4) After the final mowing (around Halloween)If you can't make all of these, the last one is the most important.
- Water the lawn after each application.



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Additional Resources

Fertilizing Your Lawn

- UW-Extension Publication A2302, *Lawn Fertilization*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Lawn-Fertilization-P435.aspx>
- UW-Extension Publication A3964, *Do-It-Yourself Alternative Lawn Care*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Do-It-Yourself-Alternative-Lawn-Care-P1539.aspx>
- UW-Extension Garden Fact Sheet XHT1197, *Organic Lawn Fertilization*, at <https://hort.uwex.edu/articles/organic-lawn-fertilization/>

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