# **ORGANIC LAWN CARE CALENDAR**

Season	Cool- Season Grasses (North)	Warm- Season Grasses (South)	Transition Zone (Mid- Atlantic, Lower Midwest)
Spring	Fertilize: Apply organic fertilizer after the first mowing	Fertilize: Apply organic fertilizer after the lawn greens up.	Fertilize: Apply organic fertilizer in early spring for cool-season grasses, late spring for warm-season grasses.
	Overseed: Overseed thin or bare areas	Dethatch: Remove thatch if necessary	Overseed/Dethatch: Overseed cool-season grasses in early spring, dethatch warm-season grasses in late spring/early summer

Mow: Begin mowing when grass reaches 3-4 inches, maintaining this height throughout the season Mow: Begin mowing when grass greens up, maintaining a height of 1-2 inches for Bermuda, 2-3 inches for Zoysia

Mow: Adjust mowing height based on grass type and growth rate

Summer	Water: Water deeply but infrequently, aiming for 1 inch of water per week	Water: Water deeply and infrequently, especially during droughts	Water: Water as needed, depending on rainfall and grass type
	Control weeds: Hand- pull, mulch, or use organic herbicides	Control weeds: Hand- pull, mulch, or use organic herbicides	Control weeds: Use appropriate methods based on weed type and grass type

Fall	Fertilize: Apply organic fertilizer in early fall to promote root growth and winter hardiness	Aerate: Aerate compacted soil to improve water and nutrient penetration	Fertilize/Aerat e: Fertilize cool-season grasses in early fall, aerate warm- season grasses in late summer/early fall
	Overseed: Overseed again if needed.	Overseed: Overseed with warm-season grass if needed	Overseed: Overseed cool-season grasses in early fall.

Fall

Continue mowing: Gradually lower mowing height as growth slows Continue mowing: Continue mowing as needed, but raise the mowing height slightly as growth slows

Continue mowing: Adjust mowing height based on grass type and growth rate

Winter	Leave grass clippings: Leave grass clippings on the lawn to decompose and add nutrients	Leave grass clippings: Leave grass clippings on the lawn	Leave grass clippings: Leave grass clippings on the lawn to decompose and add nutrients.
	Avoid walking	Avoid walking	Avoid walking
	on frozen	on dormant	on frozen
	grass: Protect	grass: Protect	grass: Protect
	dormant grass	dormant grass	dormant grass
	from damage	from damage	from damage

## Winter

Plan for spring: Research organic lawn care practices and prepare for next season's tasks Plan for spring: Research organic lawn care practices and prepare for next season's tasks Plan for spring: Research organic lawn care practices and prepare for next season's tasks

KEY:

- FERTILIZE: USE ORGANIC FERTILIZERS LIKE COMPOST, MANURE, OR FISH EMULSION.
- AERATE: USE A CORE AERATOR TO IMPROVE SOIL DRAINAGE AND AERATION.
- OVERSEED: SPREAD GRASS SEED TO THICKEN THE LAWN AND FILL IN BARE SPOTS.
- MOW: MOW REGULARLY TO THE RECOMMENDED HEIGHT FOR YOUR GRASS TYPE.
- WATER: WATER DEEPLY BUT INFREQUENTLY TO ENCOURAGE DEEP ROOT GROWTH.

**REMEMBER:** 

THIS IS JUST A GENERAL GUIDE. ADJUST YOUR LAWN CARE ROUTINE BASED ON YOUR SPECIFIC CLIMATE, GRASS TYPE, AND SOIL CONDITIONS.

ALWAYS CONSULT WITH LOCAL EXPERTS OR EXTENSION SERVICES FOR THE MOST ACCURATE AND UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.