

REDUCING PESTICIDES

it's perfectly natural.



Fall tips for natural lawn and garden care

Fall is the best time to prepare your lawn and garden for Spring. These three easy steps will help reduce the need for pesticides:

1. Aerate and seed your lawn

Over time, the soil under your lawn is compacted. This prevents water, air and nutrients from reaching plant roots. Aerating your soil means opening holes so your lawn can breathe more easily. Aeration can be done with a mechanical aerator which can be rented at garden centres and tool rental stores. A pitch-fork will work almost as well. After aeration, apply grass seed to thicken the lawn and crowd out weeds. Weeds grow and spread quickly in a thin lawn. Use a blend of grasses, especially perennial ryegrasses and fescues, which need less care and can resist bugs. Young grass can survive the winter and turn into a thick lawn in the Spring.

2. Use natural fertilizer

Fertilize in the Fall, when the top growth has stopped and the roots are still storing nutrients for next season. This encourages deep, healthy roots that will resist insect pests enabling plants to endure dry periods. Fall fertilizing also helps your grass and garden to grow more quickly in early Spring. It's best to fertilize after aerating your lawn.

3. Apply mulch to your lawn and garden

Adding mulch, such as leaves, grass clippings and wood chips, helps your garden and lawn retain moisture and provide valuable nutrients. Spread mulch on garden beds, around trees and lightly over your lawn to protect from winter damage and to reduce weeds.