

New PESTICIDE regulations

Effective May 1st, 2012, five pesticide active ingredients are no longer permitted for use on lawns:

2,4-D | MECOPROP | DICAMBA | MCPA | CARBARYL

These new regulations are important in our efforts to continue to reduce the unnecessary use of pesticides on lawns.

These new regulations apply to everyone:

- Residential - homes, apartments and condos
- Commercial - businesses and cemeteries
- Government - ball fields, parks and office buildings
- Institutional – schools, hospitals, long-term care homes and recreation centres

Call a professional lawn care service provider.

If lawn maintenance seems like a little too much work, think about hiring a professional. A lawn care service professional will:

- Take an Integrated Pest Management approach to your lawn's needs
- Provide sustainable lawn care solutions
- Provide expert advice on lawn renovation (overseeding, fertility, alternatives to grass, etc.)

Lawn care service providers can be found in the yellow pages or online.

- www.landscapenl.com
Landscape Newfoundland and Labrador is a professional association of business owners and operators in the landscaping and horticultural (non-food) industry sector in this province.
- www.gov.nl.ca/env/env_protection/pesticides/business/active.html#operators
For a list of professional Pesticide Operators that are trained and licensed in the proper use of allowable, registered pesticides.



Getting to the root of a healthy lawn

CONTACT US

For more information on pesticide use in Newfoundland and Labrador

Email: PesticidesControl@gov.nl.ca

Phone: 1-800-563-6181

Web: www.gov.nl.ca/env/env_protection/pesticides



Environment and Conservation





Spring

- 🌿 **AERATE THE LAWN.** Punch holes throughout the lawn to let air, water, fertilizer, and lime get to the roots and the soil.
- 🌿 **RAKE OR DE-THATCH.** Thatch is a matted layer of dead or dying grass and roots found where grass meets the soil. Thatch accumulation of more than ½ inch (1.5 cm) can restrict the development of a good deep root system by preventing water from getting to the roots.
- 🌿 **LIME, LIME, LIME.** Limestone reduces the acidity of the soil and unlocks the soil to make plant nutrients available to the grass plant. It also supplies magnesium and calcium which are two essential nutrients for turfgrass growth. Remember, it is slow to react with the soil.
- 🌿 **FERTILIZE.** A complete fertilizer contains Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium (N-P-K). The 3 numbers on the package represent the proportions of these nutrients: 21-7-7 formulation contains 21% nitrogen and 7% each of phosphorous and potassium. Fertilizers with a slow-release form of nitrogen are preferred because they release nutrients uniformly. Rates and timing of fertilization can vary with soil type, grass type and soil and weather conditions. A lower rate is generally used in spring and early summer than in early and late fall.
- 🌿 **OVERSEED.** Spreading grass seed on your lawn will help it remain dense. Add grass seed with compost or topsoil anytime you see bare or thinning spots. The staff at local garden centres can help you choose the right seed for our climate.



Summer

- 🌿 **MOW HIGH.** To promote vigorous growth, prevent weeds and discourage insect pests, cut grass 2.5-3" (6-8 cm) long. Cut only a third of the grass height.
- 🌿 **WATER DEEPLY AND INFREQUENTLY TO PROMOTE DEEP ROOTS.** Too much water will starve the soil of oxygen and will invite disease. You only need water after a dry spell.
- 🌿 **OVERSEED.** Add grass seed any time you see bare or thinning spots.



Autumn

- 🌿 **FERTILIZE.** September is a good time to do this.
- 🌿 **ADD LIME AND COMPOST.** October and November are ideal months for this. Compost acts as a natural fertilizer and keeps your soil healthy.
- 🌿 **OVERSEED.** Add grass seed anytime you see bare or thinning spots. You can do this anytime in the fall.

The right foundation begins with at least 6 inches of compacted soil and a soil test.

- 🌿 Our soils in NL are very acidic.
- 🌿 Grass grows best in a pH of 6- 6.5.
- 🌿 Soil testing can determine the pH and fertility status of your soil and the results will provide a recommendation for limestone and fertilizer to optimize your turf's performance.
- 🌿 Remember, if the pH is not right, the roots will not be able to take up those valued nutrients.

Alternative Pest Control* for Turf in Newfoundland and Labrador

ALWAYS READ THE LABEL

ACTIVE INGREDIENT: Iron (present as FeHEDTA)

TARGET PEST: Broadleaf weeds, moss and algae

INSTRUCTIONS: Do not apply to drought stressed grass; ensure lawn is well watered prior to application. Thorough and uniform coverage is important. Water lawn 24 hours after each application. Repeat treatment may be required. Visible signs of control may be seen several hours after application. Susceptible weeds, moss or algae will turn brown or black. Darkening of the grass blades may occur after treatment; however the grass will recover within a few days to weeks.

ACTIVE INGREDIENT: Phoma macrostoma

TARGET PEST: Prevention, suppression and control of broadleaf weeds

INSTRUCTIONS: A bio-pesticide derived from a naturally occurring fungus discovered growing on Canada Thistle plants in Saskatchewan. Can be applied to established or newly seeded lawns.

ACTIVE INGREDIENT: Acetic Acid

TARGET PEST: Broadleaf and grassy weeds

INSTRUCTIONS: Apply in warm, sunny weather to weeds less than 10 cm in height. Only contacted vegetation will be affected. Visible effects occur after treatment, and actively growing weeds are controlled within 1-2 days. Caution is advised as this product will burn/kill grass if contact is made.

ACTIVE INGREDIENT: Fatty acids (Potassium salts) and Pyrethrins

TARGET PEST: Lawn insects – chinch bugs, ants and earwigs

INSTRUCTIONS: Spray insects to wet when they first appear. Thorough coverage is essential for effective control. A repeat application may be necessary in 10-14 days.

* Registered and classified under the Pest Control Products Act by Health Canada