



# THE COMPLETE FALL LAWN & LANDSCAPE GUIDE

Preparing your lawn and landscape for the upcoming winter season properly will lead to a great spring for your lawn and landscape.

## Strengthen Your Lawn with an Aeration

Fall is perhaps the most important time of the year for your lawn. After another grueling Ohio summer, it's important to treat your lawn right as we head into winter. Although your grass may slow, it's growing on top. Fall is the time of the year your root system looks to strengthen itself by growing deeper into your lawn in preparation for the colder weather. If your soil is compacted, the root system won't fully develop, and your lawn could perish during the cold weather. This is why aerating is so important.



Aerating your lawn opens up thousands of tiny holes in

the surface of your lawn, relieving compaction and allowing your root system to grow downward.

Dethatching a lawn is commonly thought to help remove dead grass blades out of your turf allowing your lawn to grow thicker. However it actually causes damage to the individual plants "crown" killing it and causing more bare spots for the following spring. Aerating your lawn helps break down thatch, and is the preferred method.

## Fall is Perfect for Adding New Plants & Transplanting Trees or Shrubs!

Warm, moist soil, and cooler temperatures make fall the best time to plant and transplant trees & shrubs. These ideal temperatures help plants establish a good root system before winter, allowing the important feeder roots to grow.

Perennials, such as fountain grass, can also be "split" during this period, allowing you to create two plants from one.

Finally, fall is the time to get your spring bulbs into the ground to have beautiful flowers next spring!

## Plant Pruning & Trimming

Fall is also the perfect time to prune and trim your trees and plants to prepare them for the winter and promote new growth in the spring.

Pruning should be done on summer & fall blooming shrubs, pruning out damaged branches, dead branches or flowers that have finished blooming.

Trimming your trees is important to optimize proper growth and promote the plant's overall health. Remove dead or dying branches, and the sprouts that may be growing near the bottom of the tree.

Make sure to also trim your trees & shrubs to promote a proper growth pattern, cutting back any shrubs and tree areas that are out of the desired pattern.

If you're not sure, talk to a certified arborist to get further trimming tips. Improper trimming can injure and even kill some trees & shrubs.

## Prevent Spring Insects: Landscape Cleanups & Pre-Winterizing Spray

Believe it or not, cleaning up your landscape beds can help eliminate early spring bugs. Debris and leaves create hiding places for insects to seek refuge in over the winter months. Eliminating these hiding spots will help prevent a spring infestation.



A pre-winterizing spray will also help your plants withstand a tough winter and eliminate bugs from burrowing into their bark, and harming them.



**WARNING!**  
Dethatching can cause damage to your lawn!  
Instead, aerate to promote healthy root growth!

**SAVE MONEY!**  
Pre-winter spray can kill those insects on plants before they become a costly problem!

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