

JANUARY

- Dormant for the winter. Keep traffic off the frozen turf, since the crowns shatter underfoot.

APRIL

- Good time for a soil test (every 2-3 years). It gets you set before fall, a cool-season lawn's biggest feeding.
- Soil hitting 50°F? Time for the first half of your split pre-emergent. Use a short-residual product.

JULY

- Let the lawn go heat-dormant. Water **ONLY** about 0.25" every 2-3 weeks to prevent crown rot.

OCTOBER

- Drop your mowing height to 2.5".
- If you've had snow mold before, this is the time for a preventative fungicide (propiconazole).
- Skip the late-fall winterizer. Fine fescue doesn't need it.

FEBRUARY

- Still dormant through the deep freeze, nothing to do but let it rest.

MAY

- Soil hits 55°F? Time for the second half.
- Light spring feeding (~0.5 lb N / 1,000 sq ft).
- Spot-treat broadleaf weeds, but only once air temps hold above 65°F.
[WEED ID TOOL → TURFTRIGGER.COM/TOOLS](https://turftrigger.com/tools)

AUGUST

- Good time to scout for grubs.
- Late Aug: slit-seed any thin areas. **NEVER** core aerate.
- Apply starter fertilizer and mesotrione (Tenacity) with the seed. On fine fescue it can cause temporary whitening; the seedlings grow out of it.

NOVEMBER

- Turf settles into dormancy.

MARCH

- Snowpack melts this month. Stay off the muddy turf.

JUNE

- Raise your mower to 3"+.
- Good time for preventative grub control.

SEPTEMBER

- Apply a light fall feeding (~0.5 lb N / 1,000 sq ft). Fine fescue needs to stay lean.

DECEMBER

- Dormant, minimal activity until spring.

Good to know

Cool-season grass in USDA zone 5. Low-nitrogen grass requiring strict summer dormancy. Core aeration is strictly prohibited to protect crowns.

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scan for live timing for your ZIP

