

JANUARY

- Dormant under snow for the winter. Keep traffic off the frozen turf to protect the crowns.

FEBRUARY

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

MARCH

- Snowpack melts this month. Stay off the muddy turf to avoid deep ruts and compaction.

APRIL

- Good time for a soil test (every 2-3 years). It gets you set before fall, a cool-season lawn's biggest feeding.
- Gently rake the matted grass to break up any snow-mold webs.
- Soil nearing 55°F? Time for your spring pre-emergent.

MAY

- First light feeding of the year (~0.5-0.75 lb N).
- Spot-treat broadleaf weeds, but only once air temps hold above 65°F. A cold spray just gets wasted.

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JUNE

- Raise your mower to 3"+ to help the lawn handle summer heat.
- Good window for preventative grub control, June through July.

JULY

- Water deeply and infrequently, about 1-1.5"/week, to drive roots down.
- Keep an eye out for Summer Patch or Dollar Spot in high humidity.

AUGUST

- Once summer heat breaks in late August, it's a good time to core aerate.
- Seed bare spots only. KBG's slow 14-21 day germination needs this head start, and rhizomes will fill in the rest.

SEPTEMBER

- Time for your primary fall feeding, the year's heaviest (~1 lb N), to fuel rhizome spread.
- A second broadleaf weed pass works well now. Fall applications are best at killing perennial roots.

OCTOBER

- Gradually drop your mowing height to ~2.5" to help prevent snow-mold matting.
- Once top-growth stops, apply a fast-release winterizer.

NOVEMBER

- If you've had snow mold before, this is the time for a preventative fungicide (propiconazole).
- Ground freezes and the turf settles into full dormancy.

DECEMBER

- Dormant under snow, nothing to do until spring.

Good to know

Cool-season grass in USDA zone 5. Prone to snow mold and compaction. Requires strict traffic control on frozen/muddy turf and early late-summer seeding to accommodate slow germination.

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