



## Healthy Garden Tips

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### EASY LAWN CARE

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#### Best Lawn Grasses for Napa County

Cool Season lawn grass species grow best

(Examples: perennial rye, Kentucky blue, tall fescue, red fescue)

Plant a seed mixture of species and varieties (or use a grass sod lawn)

High quality seed (is worth the price) = easy care grass lawn

Seed germinations requires 3 to 21 days. Surface must remain moist.

Grass leaves (blades) needed for growth.

Roots grow 12 to 36 inches deep.

Lawns need 5+ hours of sun, regular watering, regular mowing, N and S.

#### Easy Lawn Care Practices

1. Water

2. Mow

3. Fertilize

##### 1. Water Regularly

Apply  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep to lawn surface each time you irrigate to rewet soil 1 ft. deep. Prevent water run-off: split time and give the water time to soak into the soil. Adjust time between water dates with season.

Example schedule: March: water once every 14 days (unless rain)

April - water once every 10 days

May - water once every 7 days

June - water once every 5 days

July - water once every 3 days

Aug - water once every 5 days

Sep - water once every 7 days

Oct - water once every 10 days

Nov - water once every 14 days (unless rain)

Dec – Jan/Feb no water needed

##### To save water:

Add days between watering. Always water  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch per time. Raise mower to 3 inch height so grass shades soil surface. Only fertilize twice: once in October and once in March.

##### 2. Mow Regularly

Mow on a regular schedule to remove 1/3 of grass height

Short bladed grasses tolerate short mowing height (Bentgrass =  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch)

Tall bladed grass needs high mowing height (Tall fescue = 3 inches)

**Recommended: 2 inch mowing height for most lawn grasses**

### **3. Fertilizers**

Lawn grasses need Nitrogen and Sulfur for healthy growth.

Fertilize when actively growing in Spring and Fall

Follow fertilizer package label directions for correct methods and rate

Apply a regular irrigation immediately after applying fertilizer.