**Spring Seasonal Lawn Care Guide for Lush Lawns**

Clean up – quick spring cleaning. Grab a lawn rake to rake out dead grass and dead remnants of annual grassy weeds, like crabgrass. Pick up any sticks or other debris that have accumulated over the winter.

Mow high – check your mower height, and set the position to cut the grass as the highest possible setting for your grass type. (Tall fescue should be 2.5” – 3.5”). Cutting your grass high encourages grass plants to grow thicker with deeper roots, creating a healthy grass that helps to crowd out weeds. Try not to mow more than 1/3 of the height at a time. Do not mow when grass it wet. Keep mower blades sharp.

Apply fertilizer – First application should be something like Scotts Turf Builder Halts Crabgrass Preventer with Lawn Food or Scotts Turf Builder Lawn Food (if crabgrass wasn’t a problem last year). Second application should be two months later, with Weed & Feed.

Control weeds – spot treat weeds like dandelions or wild violets by spraying a weed control application that won’t harm your grass.

Patch and thicken – Repair bare spots with an EZ Seed. Aim for early spring for cool-season grasses and late spring for warm-season grasses. If your lawn is thin and worn, consider overseeding.

Tips

Tall fescue – prefers a soil pH of 5.5 – 6.5. You can buy an inexpensive kit to test your soil at home.

Aerating – Signs you need to aerate

* Water puddling after rain
* Heavy clay soil
* Thin, patchy or bare grass
* Thatch layer thicker than one-half inch

Warm-season grasses (like bermudagrass, Zoysia) should be aerated in late spring/early fall

Cool-season grasses (like Fescue) should be aerated in fall.

Irrigation

* One inch of water once a week
* Apply water slowly
* Water in early morning (before noon)