



## Fall Lawn Renovation Program for 2009 “Near Perfect” Lawn

(When less than 20% of your lawn consists of weeds)

**Week One:** Do not mow lawn this week. Determine if the weeds in your lawn are broadleaf weeds, grassy weeds, or Nut sedge. If the weeds are broadleaf, apply **Speed Zone liquid weed killer**, if the weeds are grassy, apply **MSMA crabgrass weed killer**, if the weeds are Nutsedge, apply **SedgeHammer**. Depending on your conditions, you may have to apply all three. Be sure to use a **Spreader Sticker** with all chemicals, this will ensure that the chemicals stay on the leaves of the weeds and do not run off. A granular alternative is **Green Light Wipe-Out Tough Weed Control**, using a lawn spreader.

**Week Two:** Mow lawn to a height of 2”, bagging the clippings. Using a leaf rake, rake through the entire lawn to dig out the thatch layer. This will allow more moisture to get to the grass plants and reduce the potential for disease next year.

Apply **Turf Trust 24-2-12 Lawn Fertilizer**. This product contains *Crotonylidene Diurea*. This nitrogen form will give your lawn a healthy and important feeding throughout the winter. The most important feedings for the grass plant are the early fall and the late fall feedings. The energy is stored by the plants in the roots, in the form of carbohydrates.

Apply Green Light **Dimension** pre-emergent herbicide in late August to prevent the germination of annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*), Henbit, and Chickweed. Annual bluegrass is frequently seen in lawn in the springtime and is characterized by a lime green leaf and prolific seed heads. **You cannot seed after applying Dimension!**

**If some seeding is necessary, refer to the following directions.**

All bare spots should be raked out with a hard tine rake. This will remove the dead material and open up the soil to a depth of ¼”. We recommend that bare spots be seeded with **Turf Sense Yellow Jacket Brand premium certified tall fescue blend**, available from your **Independent Garden Center**. In shade seed at 1/2 rate. The grass seed should be covered with a thin layer of **Compost**. The **Compost** will protect the grass seed from washing away, while supplying young seedlings with a nutritious environment in which to grow. Apply **Turf Trust** at this time as well. Spray mist the patched areas for a period of 10 to 14 days.

**Caution!      Caution!      Caution!**

The pre-emergent herbicides can still be applied at this time provided that the newly seeded areas are avoided. Avoiding the newly seeded areas is critical otherwise the grass seed will not germinate! The alternative is to apply the pre-emergent herbicides in 6 weeks. Delaying application will still provide adequate control of weeds.

**Note: Always refer to product labels for specific use directions, precautions, and limitations before using products.**