

Welcome to the Lawn-A-Mat family!

Thank you for choosing Lawn-A-Mat for your lawn care needs. We will provide your lawn with the most complete program in the industry. Our fertilizers are high quality, slow release, professional grade products. The insect controls we use are timed perfectly to protect your lawn from damage and we offer tick and flea reduction for your family's protection as well. Our weed controls will slowly but surely reduce the weed population in your lawn to an acceptable level. As America's first automated lawn care company, you can count on our more than 60 years of experience to have the knowledge and expertise to work with you to solve all the challenges that your lawn faces.

It is important to know that your Lawn-A-Mat service continues from year to year. The state of New Jersey does not require annual contracts so, your service will continue until you contact us. Please just give us a call if you need to interrupt service for any reason. If we do not hear from you, we will resume service on your lawn each year. In New York, annual contracts are required. Therefore, please return your contracts each Spring so we can continue to service your lawn.

Important New Customer Information...

We prepared the following list of new customer information to help answer some of the common questions that new customers have. Whether you are new to lawn care or just new to Lawn-A-Mat, this information will be helpful to achieving the results you want. A complete list of frequently asked questions can be found on our website. You can also like or follow us on Facebook. We will be sharing important information to help homeowners like yourself get the lush, green lawn you've been looking for!

Once again, thank you for your business and always feel free to give us a call!

Rich and Melissa Hillmann



Q: How short should I cut my lawn?

A: Never cutting below 3” is the number one, most important thing that a homeowner can do to help maintain a healthy lawn. There is a direct correlation between top growth and root depth. Turf grass needs deep roots to be its healthiest. Shallow roots make the grass plant vulnerable to disease, insect and drought damage. Even trimming and edging below 3 inches can cause burning and weeds.

Other thoughts on mowing:

- **Lawns may be cut the day after service.** The materials we use are a heavy granular that settle into the thatch layer quickly and will not be sucked up by lawn mowers after sitting overnight.
- **If the clippings are not being removed,** mowing can be done at any time.

Q: When should I water?

A: You should water when your lawn needs it. For the most part, the granular materials we use do not need to be watered manually to be effective in that they are slow-release products which will break down over time with normal levels of natural moisture. Rain, showers and even dew are usually enough to ensure effectiveness. There are times, however, when materials will need watering such as during unusual dryness. Seed also is different in that it needs to be kept moist in order for it to germinate. Please always follow our seasonal recommendations and the instructions printed on your service invoice.

Q: Do I need to avoid walking on my lawn after your visit?

A: Please stay off the treated areas for 24 hours after service. State requirements demand that you keep animals and people off of the treated areas for 24 hours and that the signs be removed no sooner than 72 hours. By hiring our service, you have accepted responsibility of removing the signs and we thank you for your help.

Q: Should my lawn be seeded in the Spring?

A: Some lawns need seed in the Spring, but most established lawns do not. New, damaged or heavily shaded lawns may benefit from Spring seeding. Unfortunately, the pre-emergent weed controls normally applied in the Spring will stop grass seed germination as well. Therefore, lawns seeded in the Spring will have more weeds and crabgrass. These then must be tolerated because the new grass seedlings will be too immature for a while to withstand spraying. New seedlings are also often too immature to survive Summer heat and dryness as well. Lawns weakened over the winter will usually thicken-up naturally in the Spring, without seeding, with proper care.

Q: How long will it take for my lawn to improve?

A: You will notice an improvement in your lawn’s condition within just the first few applications. However, progress rates do vary depending on many factors (original condition, weather, soil type, etc.). Generally, you can expect a gradual but steady improvement over a 2-year period.

Q: How long before the weeds will be under control?

A: Weed control takes time. Although weeds germinate every day, the goal is to gradually but surely eliminate most weeds. The weed seeds are both in the soil and transported by wind and animals. After germination they can be controlled by spraying, but they must first be present for us to spray them. Weeds that grow in between services are sprayed during the next service which may be a few weeks away. In addition, some hardier weeds take 2 services to control. New lawns may even seem weedier after the first application. This is normal because the fertilizer feeds the weeds along with the grass. As your lawn strengthens and we gradually reduce the weed population, you will see steady improvement after the first 2 or 3 services.

Q: Does pre-emergent in the Spring prevent weeds?

A: Yes and no. It cuts down on the number of grassy weeds such as crabgrass. Unfortunately, broad leaf weeds and dandelions cannot be prevented. They need to be sprayed every time we are there as they germinate every day. While the pre-emergent helps reduce crabgrass, unless your lawn is of sod quality some crabgrass should be expected every year but at a much-reduced rate.

Q: Why don't I see much fertilizer?

A: Fertilizers have changed quite a bit over the last 20 years. They used to be larger particles which were bright colors like yellow and orange. Now the particle size is much smaller and darker in color. In fact, about 80% of the product we apply on your yard is grey or brown and blends in perfectly with the dirt. Unless you get down on your hands and knees and really stick your face to the ground you are not likely to see it at all. Also, we try to avoid getting material anywhere but on the grass. If we do, we often blow it back. If you look for it, you will usually be disappointed despite the fact that we apply the perfect amount every time. Think of it this way: the fertilizer is there to feed the grass not so you can feel good seeing it.



If you have any additional questions, please give us a call at any time! We would love to hear from you!