

# Timely Turf

# Tips

## September 2022



**Fall weather has finally cooled and that means it's time for a tasting event.** The 12<sup>th</sup> annual tomato and 11<sup>th</sup> annual pepper tasting event is coming up. Join us on Saturday, September 17 from 9 AM to 2 PM for a chance to sample 100+ varieties of tomatoes and peppers. Hope to see you there. Another important fall event is fall fertilizing and spraying broadleaf weeds like dandelions and creeping charlie. A little work this fall will help prepare for a more beautiful yard next year. Use the coupons below and save.

### September tips for the lawn and garden:

- With the rain and cooler temperatures, it is recommended that you lower the cutting height of the lawnmower and keep the grass 2 ½ to 3 inches tall with regular mowing. The University of Minnesota Extension suggests this height for fall, with a gradual decrease to 2 to 2 ½ inches over the last two to three mowing for the year. This decrease at the end of fall should aid in leaf removal and reduce the chance of snow mold next spring.
- Thin patches in the lawn can be reseeded through September 20. Fall weather conditions of longer, cooler nights and more expected rainfall give grass seedlings a better start toward becoming established. Come see us at the mill for advice and seed.
- There is still time to apply a fall application of fertilizer if you have not done that very important lawn care task. Whether you apply one, two, or three applications per year, all of the U of M Extension's MN home lawn fertility programs recommend a fall application around Labor Day. Apply your fall fertilizer at a rate of 1 pound of nitrogen per 1000 square feet. We recommend Hugo Feed Mill's brand 25-0-15, with 50% slow-release nitrogen for a longer feeding period. A 40# bag covers 10,000 square feet and there is a coupon attached below.
- It's a great time to apply broadleaf weed control products like SpeedZone and Weed Free Zone for dandelion, creeping Charlie, and clover control. Fall growing conditions allow the product to be taken up by the entire plant effectively dispersing the herbicide all through the plant, resulting in fewer pesky weeds next spring.
- Remove any diseased plant material from the flower/ vegetable garden and dispose it in the trash, not the compost bin. Overripe produce should also be removed to discourage insects and other unwanted guests.
- Shop for spring flowering bulbs. Planting time is mid-September (crocus, grape hyacinth) through mid-October (tulips, daffodils). Bone meal is available at the mill.
- The Minnesota Landscape Arboretum notes that fall planting of trees and shrubs can be done now. Remember to water right up to freeze and consider mulching the new plantings. Fall pruning of trees that bleed, like maples, birch, black walnut, honey locust and mountain ash is mentioned.



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