



## Winter Lawn Care

### Just keep mowing

Keep cutting the grass as long as it continues to grow! Some prefer to reduce their mowing height to 2" for the last mow of the season. This is so that grass won't be matted down by ice and snow that may cause issues the following spring. Do remove large leaves from the grass, preferably by shredding them with a mulching mower. Non-mulching mowers may require a few passes. As long as you can see the grass through the leaf pieces, you'll both be improving your soil and managing autumn leaves.

### Pick up your toys

Fire pits, tables, chairs and planters can brighten up a lawn in the summertime but once winter rolls around the grass under and around these objects may die off completely rather than go dormant with the rest of your lawn. Come spring you may be left with gaps or sparse grass in and around areas where objects have been sitting. Also keep an eye out for fallen tree limbs in the winter time, especially after ice and snow storms. You'll want to remove them quickly to keep them from killing off surrounding grass.

### Destroy ice, not your grass

Eco-friendly ice melters aren't just good for the health of your lawn, they also tend to be less harmful to waterways when they run off, less damaging to vehicles than harsher products, and safer for pets and children. If there is still melting product leftover after the ice has melted, consider sweeping it up and disposing of it properly or re-using it.

### Be picky about plant trimming

Winter is one of the best times to cut back trees and large woody shrubs. However, consider holstering your pruners when it comes to tall grasses and perennial wildflowers in your garden. Both provide seeds for birds to eat during the chilly winter months as well as shelter for overwintering pollinators and other wildlife. You can cut back dead grasses and flowers in the spring when the weather starts to warm up.

### Winterize your mower



- Run the engine until all fuel is gone
- While engine is warm, drain oil and replace with fresh oil
- Lubricate appropriate parts
- Remove battery and charge it before storage (if applicable)

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