



Natural Lawn Care Resources

Assessment	Mowing	Water	Fertilizer	Maintenance	Beyond the Lawn
<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Identify needs and goals for you lawn•Assess your landscape conditions (light, soils, salt, etc.)•Right plant, right place	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Sharpen mower blade•Leave grass clippings•Mow at 3 inches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Allow dormancy•Water deeply and infrequently•1 inch of water/week•Redirect downspouts•Use rainbarrels, permeable pavers, or rain gardens	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Leave Grass clippings•Use compost as topdressing•Apply fertilizer only when needed and in the fall•Weed tolerance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Aerate•Overseed•Topdress•Integrated Pest Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Alternatives to bluegrass such as tall fescue•Native Plants

Resources to facilitate learning about your lawn and landscape:

- [Turfgrass Weeds from Purdue University](#): This site provides resources on weeds you will commonly find in your lawn. The Turfgrass Science website also provides an abundance of resources for lawn in general including lawn establishment, disease control, and maintenance.
- [Lawn to Lake Midwest](#): This site provides resources on natural lawn care including a calendar of maintenance practices.
- [Midwest Grows Green](#): This website provides resources on natural lawn care practices as well as several events and programs to further your lawn care journey.
- [Soil Test Labs](#): This University of Illinois Extension page provides recommended labs for soil testing, as well as resources for how to collect a sample and interpret the results.
- [What is Integrated Pest Management?](#): This page from University of California offers an overview of IPM.

Take it a step further and learn more:

- [What's the Deal with "No Mow May"? from Wisconsin Extension](#)
- [Cook County Conservation@Home](#)
- [Illinois Pollinators Website](#)