

# j u n e

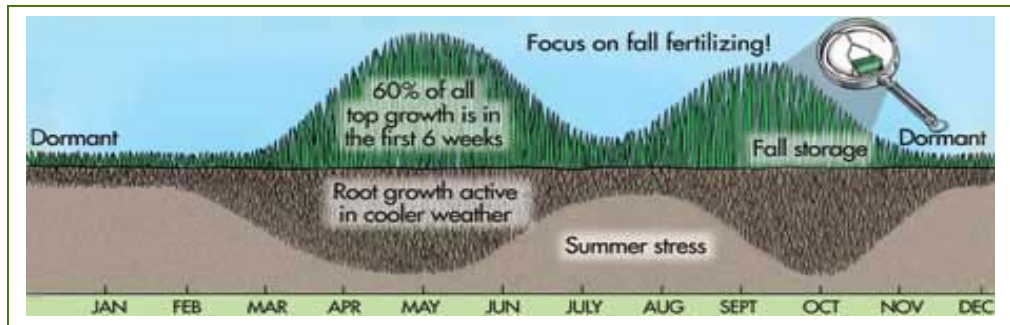
## June is a Good Time For:

- **Mowing:** Keep your lawn 3 inches tall to reduce stress and pest problems from mowing too short.
- **Fertilizing:** Apply 1 pound of Nitrogen per 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.
- **Irrigating:** Begin to water an area that you want to remain green all summer if your weekly rainfall is less than 1 inch. To prevent runoff, your precipitation or irrigation rate should not exceed your infiltration rate.
- **Scouting:** Walk your property (scout) in the early morning to help detect problems in the early stages when control methods are most effective.

FOR  
POSSIBLE  
HEALTHY  
ROOT  
GROWTH

## Growth of a Grass Plant

- Cool-season grass plants do most of their growing in the spring and fall. Substantial root and leaf growth occur in the spring.
- Fertilizers applied in early spring will accelerate shoot growth at the expense of root growth. This lush, succulent growth makes the plant more susceptible to diseases and insects and requires more frequent mowing.
- Early spring seeding and fertilization can benefit lawns that are thin or bare from winter injury.
- Roots grow well in late summer and fall when temperatures cool and the plant can store carbohydrates (energy) from photosynthesis so the plant has an adequate food supply to enable spring recovery.
- The ideal time to fertilize is two weeks after your last mowing. Use a fertilizer that is about 70% slow-release nitrogen and 30% water soluble nitrogen.



### Fertilizer Key:

Sample Bag Reads 24- 5-11  
N P K

**Nitrogen** is the key nutrient in plant growth. 24% N in a 50lb. bag = 12 lbs. of N

**Phosphorous** is important for establishment. 5%P in a 50lb. bag = 2.5 lbs. of P

**Potassium** will increase stress tolerance. 11%K in a 50lb. bag = 5.5lbs. of K

P & K needed only as soil test indicates.



## Fertilizers and Water Quality

Fertilizer Type	Advantages	Disadvantages	Potential To affect Water Quality
Slow release/ nitrogen	More constant supply	More expensive	Low
Quick release	Less expensive	Water soluble; has rapid response and higher burn potential.	High

Fall is the best time to fertilize your lawn, but it is recommended to drop fertilizer around Memorial Day, Labor Day, and again around Thanksgiving (two weeks after last mowing).

The best way to protect water quality is by using proper irrigation and fertilization practices as well as providing the correct amount of water and nutrients. This will help produce a dense mat of turf that will filter pollutants before they enter the groundwater, thus reducing surface water runoff and erosion.

### Irrigation:

Know the soil infiltration rate. Insert a coffee can with the ends cut off into the soil and pour in approximately 1 inch of water. Note how long it takes to infiltrate the surface.

Know the irrigation rate. Place a can on an area that is being irrigated and note the amount of water in the can after 15 minutes. This tells you how much water you are applying.

Know the amount of precipitation. Leave a can in your yard to measure weekly amounts of precipitation. To avoid runoff, precipitation or irrigation should not exceed soil infiltration.

Know your lawn's water needs. Healthy, actively growing turfgrass requires about 1 inch of water a week (by rain and/or irrigation).

Know the best time to water. Water in the early morning to reduce evaporation and so plants dry by mid-morning. Prolonged leaf wetness can lead to disease.