

# Some Lawn Science

There are several websites that suggest how to care for and promote a healthy lawn. Below are some sites to visit and tips we feel appropriate for our Senators community.

UofD College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Fact Sheet

<http://extension.udel.edu/factsheets/lawn-management-for-water-conservation/>

UofD Cooperative Extension Livable Lawns

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[http://udextension.s3.amazonaws.com/factsheet/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/D32536\\_LivableLawns\\_REVSIED\\_FINAL.pdf](http://udextension.s3.amazonaws.com/factsheet/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/D32536_LivableLawns_REVSIED_FINAL.pdf)

Purdue University turf grass science program

<https://www.agry.purdue.edu/turfnew/pubs/ay-7.pdf>

- About recommended grasses for Delaware
- About summer lawn dormancy...(not dead)
- When to rake and reseed
- Caring for new sod and new seed
- Take a soil test to determine pH and fertilizer needs. Lime and fertilize accordingly. Do not fertilize between April 15- Aug 15
- Control weeds. Shallow grass roots encourage crabgrass.
- Mow lawn no lower than 3.5 - 4 inches in the summer
- How much to water and avoiding water runoff

Some recent observations about recent watering for our community:

- Swales between neighbors are not saturated with water. They are drying out making mowing these areas easier.
- Clubhouse swale is not seeping water 24/7.
- Arbor Care noticed the tree beds are finally drying out making healthier tree roots and less tree stress so they can fight off disease and insects.
- We have tall fescue grass...drought and fungus resistant.
- Too much water deprives soil of oxygen and leaches out nitrogen which turns the grass yellow (which is mistaken for a dried out lawn).
- Taller and more dense grass will block out weeds and resist insects and disease.
- As our soil matures, consider aerating your lawn. This promotes less water needed.
- University of Delaware Extension experienced more damage to shrubs, trees and grass due to excess water.
- We have noticeably less fungus
- Our community is established and a water schedule for lawns, devil strips and front shrubs has been recommended for our irrigation system.
- Newly planted sod, seed, trees, shrubs and flowers require extra watering by the homeowner. Water as appropriate.