

# Green, Green Grass

It's hard for crabgrass and weeds to take over healthy grass. Grass that is healthy should require few, if any, chemical weed and insect killers. What times of the year do people feed (fertilize) grass to keep it strong and healthy?

**A bear can help your family remember the right times to fertilize grass.**



In winter, a bear sleeps. It eats nothing.

Grass needs nothing.



In spring, bears are hungry when they wake up. They need food.

Grass needs \_\_\_\_\_.



In summer, bears get what they need without extra help.

Grass needs \_\_\_\_\_.



In fall, a bear pigs out before it hibernates.

Grass needs \_\_\_\_\_.



**Dress each bear for the season.**

## Tip for Grown-ups:

Use a mulching mower to put nutrients back without fertilizing. Mow grass at a height of 2.5 to 4 inches to help screen out light to the soil surface. This slows growth of weeds like crabgrass that need light to germinate. Grass also grows a deeper root system, which helps it tolerate stress.

Check with your local agricultural extension service to find the right time of year to fertilize your lawn where you live.



A healthy lawn always has some weeds and insects (helpful insects included).