

October – December

With the cooling temperatures and decreased rainfall that the fall season brings, your lawn and landscape begin going through a period referred to as Transition.

The most noticeable difference will be in the vertical growth of your grass, which will slow down due to the change in weather conditions. To account for the decreased growth, reduce your mowing frequency based on the conditions of your individual lawn. It is very important during this time of year to only remove 1/3 of the leaf blade when mowing to protect your lawn from the cooler nights.

As the temperature begins to drop, you may see brown leaf blades appearing in the lawn. Since there are fewer hours of daylight, your lawn begins to shut down non-productive leaves and therefore they turn brown. This is a normal part of the lawn lifecycle that occurs and may give your lawn a salt and pepper appearance. Your trees, shrubs and ornamentals will also begin to lose their leaves to prepare themselves for the coming winter months.

The fall transition period is also the time where mole crickets begin to make their mating flights in the evenings. They are attracted to light and will be noticed around streetlights, security lights and flood lights. This time of year it is also common for Take All Root Rot and Brown Patch to invade a lawn. Yellowing leaf blades and brown spots in your lawn are common symptoms that these diseases may be present. Once these diseases take hold in your lawn, they can cause large amounts of damage. Winter annual weeds begin to germinate during this time of year and will begin developing in lawns.