

# Ohio Lawn & Garden Care (Nature Friendly)



## Spring

1. Divide older, fall-blooming perennials
2. Mow high (3-3.5") to shade out weeds
3. Corn gluten for pre-emergent weed prevention

Apply as a pre-emergent herbicide, early April. It inhibits root formation during seed germination for crabgrass, barnyard grass, foxtails, dandelion, lambsquarter, pigweed, purslane and smartweed.

Weed control improves with time: 50-60% first year, up to 90%+ control by year 3. Safe to use in established lawns, not advised for newly seeded lawns.

Overseeding: Spread untreated grass seed if needed when transitioning from a chemically treated lawn for the first year or two to shade out weeds.

Corn Gluten is sold as granular or dry powder product, sometimes under branding as Preen Vegetable Garden Organic or Concern Weed Prevention Plus. It is available at many nurseries.

- Cross Creek Gardens, Westerville, 614-895-8020
- DeMonye's, Bexley, 614-252-6046
- Dill's Greenhouse, Groveport, 614-836-3700
- Growing Solutions, Columbus, 614-276-7511
- Oakland Nursery – Columbus, Delaware and Dublin
- Straders – Dublin, Columbus, and Grove City

\*not a comprehensive list or endorsement

## Fall

*Wondering what to clean up for nature?*

**The less, the better!**

1. Plant plugs of native perennials (best suited to Ohio, wildlife depends on them)
2. Propagate desirable plants (seeds, cuttings, etc.)
3. Divide older, spring-blooming perennials
4. Keep leaves in beds as a natural mulch and as cover for Beneficial insects
5. Apply Corn gluten to the lawn when it first turns cold to retard broad-leaf weed seeds
6. Apply organic lawn fertilizer during rapid root growth, from September to hard frost
7. Leave seed heads on flowers and native grasses standing until Mother's Day for birds to eat
8. Leave plant materials for spring bird nest creation
9. Remove lawn to add garden space
10. Remove invasive, exotic plants
11. Make a small brush pile in an out-of-the-way corner for winter cover
12. Clean bird feeders & baths with a 10% bleach solution and rinse thoroughly

### Learn More

Wildlife-Friendly yard tips and certification: [www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/](http://www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife/)  
Worst Invasive Plants in Ohio, Ohio Invasive Plants Council: [www.oipc.info](http://www.oipc.info)  
Organic Lawn Care- Ohio, OSU Extension: <http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/4000/4031.html>