



## Tips and Techniques to Keep Your Yard Looking Great!

The Great American Lawn is a source of pride for many homeowners! Although many homeowners won't admit it, there is an unwritten, unspoken, ongoing competition with your neighbors to have the best lawn on the block. Let People's Choice Organics help! Master Grower Billy Styles, shares some of his time-tested secrets to keeping your lawn looking great, and the foundation for a great lawn is a healthy soil rich in organics and minerals!

### A Quick Soil Primer

All plants perform better when they are grown in healthy soil and certainly your lawn is no different. In fact, healthy soil will allow your grasses to grow deeper root systems with greater access to nutrients, reducing the need for supplemental irrigation by up to 75%. Soil compaction causes stress that can weaken plant vigor. Feeding the soil properly increases microbial activity and earthworm populations. Earthworms and microbes moving through the soil leave behind tunnels with nutrient rich waste that supports the soil food web. People's Choice Organics products: Jackhammer, Clear 90 and Growzilla provide the soil with a balance of macro and micro nutrients, amino acids, carbon, beneficial mycorrhiza fungi, sea minerals,

humic and fulvic acids, beneficial bacteria, sea kelp and rich humus. To have healthy soils in urban environments you must feed your soil.

*Synthetic fertilizers* feed only the plant and do not support soil health. Synthetic fertilizers never have and never will create anything other than cosmetic eye candy that is unsustainable, and requires more irrigation, while doing nothing to promote soil health. Our organic products work systematically, in harmony to create a rich and diverse growing environment throughout the growing season, even in the heat of summer!

### Timetable for Feeding Your Lawn

When it comes to the health of your lawn it is key to stay focused on all the conditions that affect it's long term success throughout the year, not just the growing season. It is very important to manage the cultural and environment impacts. Unfortunately, you can't control all impacts like rain, drought, heat, insects, traffic and others, so stay on target with your proactive maintenance and adjust your expectations to the impact of the seasonal growing cycles.

## Restore & Maintenance Schedule

Warm Season = X Apply Treatment      Cool Season = O Apply Treatment

1. January – February      Apply Round One – Crabgrass Pre-Emergent
2. April – May                      Apply Round Two – Crabgrass Pre-Emergent
3. Grub Control, 6 Steps over two years      March – July – September 10 year control
4. Control broadleaf weeds year round. Avoid letting them bloom and spread their seeds.

5. <u>Month</u>	<u>Jackhammer</u>	<u>Growzilla</u>	<u>Clear 90</u>
January	--	--	--
February	--	--	--
March	X & O	O	O
April	X & O	X & O	X & O
May	X & O	X & O	X & O
June	X & O	X & O	X & O
July	X & O	X & O	X & O
August	X & O	X & O	X & O
September	X & O	X & O	X & O
October	X & O	X & O	O
November	O	O	O
December	O	O	O

\* Gulf states and West Coast can apply all three products Dec – Feb on all grass types as needed every 3-4 weeks or a 6-8 week cycle.

### Why Use All Three Products In A Systematic Turf Care Program ?

**Jackhammer:** Loosens compacted soil, which is crucial for the movement of air and water through out the sub soil year round for plants to thrive.

**Growzilla:** Rich in beneficial microflora to restore and support soil dwelling life. Rich in diverse organic matter. Is a soil conditioner and fertilizer.

**Clear 90:** Remineralizes you soil! Supports all plants with the needed diversity of nutrients and minerals necessary to grow a long and healthy life organically....Just like Mother Nature intended!

### When and How To Use

- You can apply our products in any order. All three products can be applied same day. Apply in the coolest part of the day.
- If applying a single treatment you can turn the hose end setting to the “water only” selection and water in as needed. NOTE: Products do not need to be watered in when two or more products have been applied back to back. All products can be applied when rain is in the forecast as long as the estimated rain fall is not expected to be more than 1 inch.
- It is ok to mow the day before or day after the product treatments have been applied.
- You can spray weeds in these areas after and only when they are dry.
- When seeding you will want to apply all three products after you have applied your new seed to support the seed germination, plant and root growth.
- In low vigor and/or poor soil lawns, all three products can be used every 3-4 weeks during the regular seasonal growing cycle. Once the lawn

recovers you can space out your treatments to a 6-8 week schedule.

- > Grub control is essential to manage all types of Grubs to avoid grass damage. We recommend a 6

treatment Grub program using Milky Spore. After the 6<sup>th</sup> treatment your lawn will not need any additional treatments for 10 years.

### **A Simple Cost Comparison....Get More For Your Money!**

When you think about it a bag of synthetic fertilizer usually covers less than 10,000 square feet at an average cost of \$40 to \$60 per bag. Using People's Choice Organics Jackhammer, Growzilla & Clear 90 covers 3 to 6 times more square footage at a cost that is less than a bag of fertilizer! Plus, you're promoting healthy soil, healthy plants and a healthy environment at the same time!

	<b>Average Cost</b>	<b>Per 8,000 sq. ft.</b>
One 2 lb. container of Growzilla covers up to 64,000 sq. ft. (Makes 8, 32oz Hose End Sprayers)	\$ 7.25	8,000
One gallon container of Jackhammer covers up to 32,000 ft. (Makes 4, 32oz Hose End Sprayers)	\$14.00	8,000
One gallon container of Clear 90 covers up to 32,000 sq. ft. (Makes 4, 32oz Hose End Sprayers)	\$16.00	8,000
Cost to apply all three products at once	\$37.25	8,000

**People's Choice Organic products don't cost more, they simply DO MORE!**

## Lawn Care Tips & Techniques:

**\*For a healthy lawn and soil, follow our program schedule and never break these golden rules.**

- Keep lawn and soil clean of all debris year round.
- Feed the plant and soil a balanced diet as directed using the products above.
- Apply 1 inch of water per week. Water ONLY between 5-8 am. Late day watering promotes lawn disease and shallow root systems. \*See our "How To Water" protocol. Do not over water. Too much water will compact the soil and be detrimental to the health of your lawn.
- Do not cut lawns in the heat of the day, as it will cause dehydration damage.
- Pick four patterns to cut your lawn. Cross cutting helps reduce mower compaction, rutting and helps keep the grass growing upright.
- Keep mower blades sharp at all times. This is very important! The rule of thumb is to sharpen blades after every one acre of mowing, or sooner if blades start to dull.
- Dull mower blades rip the blades of grass, making them more susceptible to disease and causing them to lose moisture quicker.
- Never cut more than one third of the length of your grass at each cutting.
- Recommended cutting heights for cool season grasses are 3.5 inches for spring and fall and 4 inches for summer. Never cut your lawn below these recommended heights. When you cut your lawn too short it causes a host of problems that can damage your lawn such as reduced vigor, decreased root growth and potential for increased weeds.
- Your lawn needs food year round unless it is dormant. **Grow Organic!**
- Recommended cutting heights for warm season grasses are Bahia: 2.5 to 4 inches, Bermuda: 0.5 to 2.5 inches, Buffalo: 1.5 to 4 inches, Centipede: 1 to 2.5 inches, Kikuyu grass: 1 to 1.5 inches, St. Augustine: 1 to 3 inches, Zoysia: 0.5 to 3 inches.
- Always and I do mean ALWAYS, bag clippings or rake them, when grass is growing vigorously. I know you probably have read that clippings are good for the lawn, and that they feed the lawn. That is a true statement, but first the grass clippings must be eaten by microbes, and turned into nutrients. When the clipping volume surpasses the ability of the microbes to consume them, it will build up surface thatch. This excess debris cuts off crucial airflow and sunlight, also creating a habitat for insects, plant decline and eventually plant death. The rule of thumb for warm season and cool season grasses is not to leave more than 1/2 inch of thatch buildup. So when it is hot and the plant growth has slowed, you can let the clippings fly! Otherwise always bag and compost clippings!
- Avoid high rates of nitrogen. High nitrogen fertilizers can make your lawn more susceptible to compaction, disease and fungus, and requires more water.
- You can't have 20 different varieties of grass and expect them all to respond favorably at the same time. Some hold color better, some resist disease better, some stand up better while some may tend to lie down. Don't expect your lawn to do something that's not a part of its DNA, so take the time to educate yourself regarding the types of grass you have in your lawn.

***\*SEE OUR VIDEOS FOR MORE LAWN CARE TIPS!***

Use **People's Choice Organics** as a resource to help you learn to grow organically. It may be boastful, but few people in this business can grow grass the way I can! Let me help you! There are no short cuts to a beautiful healthy lawn, but by following the above Tips & Techniques, your lawn will respond, and you will be proud of your work and the positive impact you have made on your piece of the earth. I am here to help you, **Start Growing Organically America!**

