Fall Lawn Care Checklist

For residential lawns transitioning into cooler weather. Cool-season renovation opportunities differ from warm-season preparation for dormancy; adapt every treatment to your species and region.

Date: _____ Completed by: _____ Grass type / location: _____

Before you start

- Record grass type, local frost outlook and any irrigation winterization requirements. Gather cleanup tools and equipment manuals.
- Do not apply a universal final-cut height, fertilizer dose or watering schedule. Follow local extension advice and restrictions; isolate equipment power before service.

Assess and clear

☐ **Identify grass type and local fall care window (Essential)**

Cool-season lawns may be actively growing while warm-season lawns approach dormancy.

☐ **Remove heavy leaf cover and debris (Essential)**

Mulch light leaves only where they do not smother the grass.

☐ **Inspect drainage, weeds and thin patches (Essential)**

Identify causes and use local guidance before treatment.

Support the lawn

☐ **Continue mowing while grass is growing (If Applicable)**

While your grass is still growing and conditions allow mowing.

Use the recommended height for your species; avoid scalping.

☐ **Adjust irrigation for rainfall and slower growth (If Applicable)**

If supplemental watering is used.

Avoid unnecessary watering and follow local restrictions.

☐ **Fertilize only if recommended for your grass and region (If Applicable)**

Only if local, grass-specific guidance supports fall feeding.

Follow soil-test guidance, product labels and local cutoff dates.

☐ **Aerate or overseed if appropriate for the grass and season (If Applicable)**

If renovation is needed and sufficient establishment time remains for your grass.

Cool-season turf may benefit from early-fall renovation with time to establish. Warm-season turf approaching dormancy usually needs renovation deferred to its next active-growth window; confirm local advice.

Prepare for cold weather

☐ **Protect irrigation before freezing conditions (Professional Service)**

If a fixed irrigation system needs freeze protection or specialized drainage.

Follow the installed system’s freeze-protection plan. Use qualified help for blow-out or backflow work; do not disconnect controller wiring or use a generic air-pressure setting.

☐ **Clean and store lawn equipment (If Applicable)**

If equipment will be stored for the off-season.

Isolate power before servicing and follow battery or fuel storage instructions.

☐ **Record problem areas for the next growing season (Optional)**

Keep a note of weeds, drainage issues and repairs.

Notes / additional tasks

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