



# Redwood Barn Nursery

1607 Fifth Street Davis, California

## LAWN RENOVATION GUIDE STEP BY STEP GUIDE

### 1. Control weeds.

Remove annual weeds. Spray for perennials such as bermudagrass, bindweed, and nutsedge. We can ID them for you -- bring in a sample.

### 2. Mow lawn

as short as your mower will permit.

### 3. Dethatch lawn.

You can rent a dethatcher--also called a verticutter or a power rake from a local equipment rental company. Rake off the thatch.

### 4. Aerate lawn.

Rent an aerator -- also called a sod corer -- which pulls out a plug of soil. Many people like to rake off these plugs.

### 5. Apply a starter fertilizer.

Examples include GreenAll 16-16-16, or Sure Start 5-20-10. The phosphorous content (middle number) should be high.

### 6. Spread seed.

Perennial ryegrass/bluegrass/red fescue blends at 1# per 300 sq. ft.; tall, dwarf, and red fescue grasses at 1# per 100 sq. ft. Use a spreader for more even results.

### 7. Topdress

with a fine layer of redwood or fir compost or peat moss at 1 bale per 250 sq. ft. (more in hot weather). A compost spreader is helpful.

### 8. Water daily;

more often if weather is warm, dry, or especially windy.

## SOME SPECIAL NOTES:

Fall is the best time to renovate cool season grasses. Early to mid spring is also good. Spring is the best time to renovate bermudagrass lawns. Do not apply pre-emergent herbicides to the lawn in the 3 - 4 months prior to reseeding. If you have had a problem with annual weeds in the past, renovating in the spring will likely cause large numbers of weed seeds to germinate. Consider applying a pre-emergent in the spring, treating for weeds through the summer as needed, and renovating in the fall.