

## **RENOVATING TIRED LAWNS**

(Easily and Inexpensively)

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Window of Best Opportunity April/May and Sept/Oct

### Basic Recipe

- 1) Mow grass short
- 2) Spread one inch of crushed gravel ¼" ten (grid) over entire surface. Work into grass and level.
- 3) Spread one inch of compost mulch over entire surface, working into grass, and level.  
(Usually a fair amount of grass will show through.)
- 4) Top seed lawn and rake into mulch.
- 5) Top fertilize with an organic or slow release fertilizer.
- 6) Water, repeat watering as needed to keep surface moist until grass seed sprouts.
- 7) Mow when needed in approximately 2 to 4 weeks.

The basic recipe can be applied once or twice a year to correct the surface of the lawn.

The basic recipe can be changed to less than or more than an inch depending on how rough the surface of the lawn is.

The deeper the gravel and mulch the more grass seed needed to replace grass that doesn't make it through thicker layers of mulch.

The lawn area can be completely killed before the layer of gravel and mulch are applied. This works especially well to kill off undesirable vegetation.

If you decide you need to roto-till - roto-till first to 6" to 8" and then add 2" of ¼" ten gravel and 2" of compost mulch and lime. Rake out, roll lightly to compress air out of soil. This is the only time you will need to use a roller. Put down seed then top dress with chopped grass straw. Fertilize with slow release or organic fertilizer. Water in area, keep moist until seed germinates.

### Sources

#### Seed and chopped grass straw mulch

Hobbs and Hopkins Ltd.  
503-239-7518 or 800-345-3295

#### Compost Mulch

Beaver Bark - 503-543-3000  
McFarlands - 503-659-4240  
Grimm's - 503- 644-5355

#### ¼" ten gravel:

Knife River - (503) 397-4659  
Baker Rock - (503) 642-2531  
Scappoose Sand & Gravel (503) 543-8821  
Gresham Sand & Gravel (503) 666-5577  
Clackamas Landscape Supply (503) 656-2891

#### Seed

Pro-Time Companion or Protime 2000  
(low growing grass)

#### Slow Release Fertilizer

Joy Creek Nursery  
503-543-7474