My Lawn Care Calendar

Liberty Township, Ohio | Approximately 15,000 sq ft | Tall fescue and Kentucky bluegrass

About this guide: This calendar shares what I used and learned on my lawn in southwest Ohio. Products, lawn conditions, grass types and local weather vary. Always follow the current product label for rates, watering, reseeding intervals and instructions for children and pets. Spreader settings are starting points; calibrate your equipment.

Action / difficulty	When	What I used	What I did	What I learned
Plan my lawn | Easy	January-February	Lawn map and calendar	I mapped the front, back and sunny side yard, noted shade, traffic, wet spots and drainage, and set aside potential weekends.	Zones dry and grow differently. Planning around the weather and family schedule makes it easier to follow through.
Apply pre-emergent | Moderate	Late winter / early spring; check soil temperatures.	Lebanon 0.58% prodiamine, 40 lb bags; $57 each.	I checked GreenCast soil temperatures and used my Scotts EdgeGuard DLX at setting 4.5. My record says I spread 1.5 bags and gave the remaining half bag to a neighbor.	Pre-emergent helps prevent crabgrass before it sprouts. Check the label for grass type, rate and reseeding interval; temperatures and dates vary each year. Calibrate your own spreader.
Spring feeding | Moderate	Mid-to-late May.	LESCO 24-0-11, 50 lb bag; $80.	I used about 2/3 of a bag. The converted EdgeGuard DLX starting setting is 6; calibrate for the desired application rate.	Nitrogen supports color and growth; potassium supports plant function. Account for any earlier feeding and calibrate to the desired rate.
Mow high | Easy	Spring through fall while growing	Mower set about 3.5-4 inches.	I follow the one-third rule: remove no more than one-third of the grass blade at one mowing. If it gets too tall, bring it down over several mowings.	Mowing high helps protect the lawn. If my wet side yard leaves muddy footprints, I wait rather than make ruts.
Spot-treat weeds | Moderate	Spring-summer, as needed	Roundup for Lawns, 1 gallon; $25.	I spot-treated as needed, mainly along fence lines. I skipped preventive grub treatment.	Use a lawn-compatible product and follow the exact label, including reseeding and pet re-entry instructions. Roundup for Lawns is different from nonselective Roundup.
Identify problem weeds | Moderate	Late summer	Flags; IMAGE crabgrass and nutsedge weed control; $27.	I identified crabgrass and johnsongrass separately in the disturbed drainage area and spot-treated as needed.	My all-in-one treatment had modest success. Identify the weed and check the product label for that specific species before treating.

My Lawn Care Calendar continued

Action / difficulty	When	What I used	What I did	What I learned
Core aeration | Hard	Late September; September 19, 2026	19-inch walk-behind aerator; Home Depot rental $110; flags, boots and protective gear.	I cross-aerated in two directions and left the cores on the lawn. The machine was extremely heavy and hard to turn at the end of a run. Arms & Back Day!	Moist, firm soil helps pull plugs. Avoid saturated ground that can rut or smear. Flag sprinkler heads and arrange help for loading and unloading.
Overseed | Moderate	Late September; September 20, 2026	LESCO All Pro Transition Blend turf-type tall fescue; two 50 lb bags, $238.	I made two perpendicular passes at setting 7 on my EdgeGuard DLX. I had a little seed left for future spot seeding.	Crossing passes helped distribute seed. I chose the blend for my yard; I will update the results as the lawn matures.
Starter fertilizer | Moderate	After seeding; September 22, 2026	Scotts Turf Builder Starter 24-25-4; one 42 lb bag, $85.	I broke up dry clumps and spread one bag using my EdgeGuard DLX at setting 5.	Starter feeds new grass. Clumps can dump fertilizer unevenly and burn turf; check the bag setting and calibrate.
Water new seed | Easy	First 2-4 weeks after seeding	Traveling tractor sprinkler and 250 ft of hose.	I aimed to keep the top 1/8-1/4 inch moist, watering lightly as needed and reducing watering when rain helped.	My tractor sprinkler helped reach the lawn. Avoid puddles, erosion and constantly saturated soil.
Assess final fall feeding | Moderate	About 4-6 weeks after starter.	Heritage 32-0-4 with iron; 50 lb bag, $35.	For a lighter feeding, I will use about 23.5 lb over 15,000 sq ft. The EdgeGuard DLX label starting setting is 5; calibrate for the desired rate.	Count nitrogen already applied. Keep iron granules off hard surfaces and avoid frozen or saturated ground. Record the final amount and date once applied.

Materials and costs

My listed purchases and rental include equipment and materials shared or saved.

When	Material or equipment	My notes	Cost
Before spring	Scotts Turf Builder EdgeGuard DLX	Bought used on Facebook Marketplace for $25; new price noted as $90.	$25
February-early March	Lebanon 0.58% prodiamine, 40 lb	Two bags purchased; 1.5 bags recorded as applied, remaining half shared.	$114
April-early May	LESCO 24-0-11, 50 lb	Ordered May 8; about two-thirds of a bag used. Converted EdgeGuard starting setting: 6; calibrate.	$80
Spring, as needed	Roundup for Lawns, 1 gallon	Spot treatment; follow exact product label.	$25
Late summer, as needed	IMAGE crabgrass and nutsedge control	Identify weeds and confirm the label covers the target.	$27
August-early September	Reserve core aerator	19-inch walk-behind rental from Home Depot; flag hazards and arrange transport.	$110
August-early September	LESCO All Pro Transition Blend seed	Two 50 lb bags. A little seed was left for spot seeding.	$238
Before overseeding	Scotts starter fertilizer 24-25-4	One 42 lb bag applied September 22.	$85
Before fall feeding	Heritage 32-0-4 with iron, 50 lb	One $35 bag for the fall feeding.	$35
	Total listed purchases and rental	Includes equipment, purchased product, leftovers and shared material.	$739