



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
E X T E N S I O N

Solutions in your community



HOME AND GARDEN
INFORMATION CENTER

12005 Homewood Road • Ellicott City, MD 21024 • 800-342-2507 • www.hgic.umd.edu

February 2010

Lawns

Culture

- Late February through the end of March is the second best time (the optimum time is late August through mid October) to over-seed your lawn to make it thicker or to cover bare areas. The freezing and thawing of the soil this time of the year actually helps the seed to get good soil contact. Remove leaves and other debris and rake the soil to ensure good seed-soil contact. Snow cover over the seed will not harm it. To over seed an existing tall fescue lawn, broadcast tall fescue seed at a rate of 3-4 pounds per 1,000 sq. ft. For bluegrass and fine leaved fescue lawns use half this seeding rate. When seeding completely barren areas, sow tall fescue seed at about 6-8 pounds per 1,000 sq. ft.
- Be careful to keep ice-melting products off turf to avoid killing your lawn.
- Avoid walking on your lawn when it is frozen. Although it will not kill the grass, when frozen the grass blades will break leaving unsightly dead foot prints on the lawn.

**Do you have a plant or insect pest question?
Call the Home and Garden Information Center
1-800-342-2507
www.hgic.umd.edu**

