



EVERGREEN
Lawn & Landscape

When is the Last Time to Mow Before Winter?

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When is the Last Time to Mow Before Winter?

When fall starts approaching, people start getting excited about doing less yard work. The truth is though, there's still work to be done in order to prepare for winter.

One question on a lot of people's minds is, when is the last time to mow before winter?

You should switch to bi-weekly mowing around mid October and plan to do your last mow of the season at the end of November. The last mow should happen before the first frost.



Ideal conditions for the last mow of the season

Start off by researching the first predicted frost date. The first frost date could happen anytime from October 16th-December 31st, depending on where you live.

In North Texas, the first freeze usually happens around the end of November. Once you know the first freeze date, you can schedule a few times to mow prior to that date.

On each of these fall mows, gradually lower the blade height each time. Remember to never cut more than $\frac{1}{3}$ of the grass blades height at one time.

When you notice daytime temperatures are starting to dip below 50 degrees Fahrenheit, this is your clue that the first frost is steadily approaching.

It is recommended to leave your grass blades at a height of 2-2.5 inches tall for winter. This may vary a little for different grass types. Contact Evergreen Lawn and Landscape to see what we recommend for your specific grass type.

Too short-what happens?

Grass that is cut too short will most likely go into shock when the freezing weather arrives. Blades that are too short will have a harder time getting the nutrients they need to survive the winter.

When grass blades are too short, it makes it harder for the turf to absorb sunlight. Not receiving adequate sunlight will quickly cause damage to the crown of the grass blades.

Too long-what happens?

If you leave your grass blades too long over winter, you're inviting mold and fungus to develop.

When precipitation such as rain, sleet, or snow builds up on lawns, the long grass blades will become matted. Matted grass blades will fall down on top of each other, trapping the moisture in and allowing diseases to grow and spread.

It is also worth mentioning that you should not mow immediately after a frost because the frozen grass blades will crack and break under the pressure of the heavy lawn mower.

Bi-weekly mows

Even though grass is beginning to enter its dormant stage during fall, your lawn is still growing, very slowly. Which means, it still needs to be properly maintained and cared for.