

HOW to Get Rid of **Lawn Weeds** This Spring

First

Line of Defense: Good Cultural (non-chemical) Practices

- Test your soil for pH and nutrients
- Apply lime and nutrients only as directed by test results
- Aerate and overseed with recommended turf variety seeds
- Use certified seed whenever possible
- When turf is growing vigorously mow high (2.5-3 inches) and often to avoid removing more than 1/3 of grass blade
- Tall, thick turf deprives weed seed of light and heat to germinate

Second

Line of Defense: Identify the Weed

In the Spring look for:

Perennial Broadleaves:

- Broadleaf dock
- Buttercup
- Chicory
- Curly dock
- Dandelion
- Goldenrod
- Mouse ear chickweed
- Poison Ivy

- Red sorrel
- Virginia Buttonweed
- White clover
- Wild garlic

Summer Annual Broadleaves:

- Black Medic
- Pigweed

- Prostrate Knotweed
- Purslane
- Spotted Spurge

Leftover Winter Annuals:

- Chickweed

Perennial Sedges:

- Yellow nutsedge

Third

Line of Defense: Select the Proper Weapon

Usually a combination of post-emergence herbicides works best:

- 2,4-D + MCPP
Ortho Weed-B-Gon (various formulations)
- 2,4-D + MCPP + Dicamba
Trimec (various formulations)
- 2,4-D + MCPP + Dicamba + MSMA
PBI Gordon Trimec Plus (various formulations)
- Bayer All-in-one Weed Killer for Lawn

Fourth

Line of Defense: Timing is Everything

May is the best time for treating Summer annual broadleaf weeds:

- “Weed & Feed” products are **NOT** recommended for Tall Fescue lawns in Spring
- Apply herbicides when weeds are young and actively growing
- If using a granular product apply when a light dew is on grass and weeds
- Do not apply any herbicide containing Dicamba near root areas of your ornamentals
- If you seeded your turf in March, mow twice before treating