



Living Water™

Lawn & Tree Care



Moss Fact Sheet

Moss is found in most areas of the Northwest where the environment is cool and moist. It is generally found in poorly drained areas or shaded areas such as the north side of buildings. Thin turf areas and lawns, which are shaded by large trees, are most frequently affected.

Moss is a small, leafy, greenish to brown plant, which forms thick distinct patches. It favors turf areas which are low in fertility and highly acidic.

The best method of control for moss is to establish a thick stand of healthy, vigorous turf. When establishing a new turf area, provide for good surface and subsurface drainage. Fill in low spots where water may stand. Avoid frequent light sprinklings, especially in the late afternoon to early evenings and the very early morning hours.

Chemical controls for moss, such as ferrous ammonium sulfate, are available. These should be applied when affected areas are first seen. Multiple applications may be required. These products can not guarantee to prevent re-establishment unless the conditions favoring moss establishment have been changed.

After the moss control application, affected areas will begin to blacken. Rake these areas vigorously to remove the moss. Re-establishment will begin to occur if the areas are left intact. Renovation may be necessary.

Moss can be removed by hand raking and reseeding. The best preventative measure is to correct the unfavorable conditions, which caused the moss to grow. Aeration is recommended for lawn areas where water and air movement is restricted. Compacted soils are ideal sites for moss because of poor drainage. Pruning will increase penetration of light through trees, speeding the drying of grass surfaces. Choosing shade tolerant grass types can also lessen moss problems.

Remember to keep your lawn healthy by fertilizing at throughout the growing season, mow at proper height and practice good watering habits.

Give us a call at 1-800-LAWNCARE if you have any questions.

Commit your work to the Lord & it will succeed - Proverbs 16:3