



The Grass Roots: June Issue

A Monthly Briefing of Seasonal Lawn, Pest and Tree Care by Lawn Doctor

Red Thread 101

Red Thread is a common summer fungus that appears when weather conditions create the perfect moist and acidic lawn environment for fungus to grow. It manifests itself as pink and brown dinner plate-sized spots in your grass. The discoloration occurs when the fungus affects the grass blade tips.

Red Thread is most noticeable after a few days of warm temperatures (70 degrees or higher) and rainfall. You may see it only in sunny areas of your lawn and not in the shade, as sunlight activates the fungus.

There are steps you can take to help reduce the spread of this disease on your lawn:

1. Bag your mower clippings and dump off-site.
2. Sharpen & wash off your mower blades before & after you mow.
3. Avoid any night/evening watering. This will only aggravate the fungus and enable further spread.
4. If you have an irrigation system, allow the lawn to dry out for a few days.



Red Thread often forms in circles or irregular shaped patches



Red Thread up close

The easiest way to avoid lawn fungus is through proper maintenance and nourishment of the lawn to enhance microbial life in the ground. Lawn Doctor offers a Soil Enrichment Plus Program that includes health-boosting ingredients for your soil to fight off the summer's most common insects and disease, including Red Thread. As an added bonus, Soil Enrichment Plus improves lawn color to a richer, greener hue and reduces thatch build up to avoid issues like compaction and drought later in the year. Red Thread is tough, but a nourished lawn is tougher!

We Have Organic Options!

At Lawn Doctor, we understand the importance of having a healthy, beautiful lawn that is also environmentally-conscious. We believe customers should have the option to be 100% natural and organic with their lawn care maintenance products to best fit their lifestyle. So, we offer effective, entirely organic versions of our two most popular programs.

Lawn Doctor's 100% organic programs include alternative, natural products and methods of fertilization, weed control and pest management that are good for you and the environment. We offer:

- **Natural Lawn Care Program**
- **LD Mosquito and Tick Control - Organic**

Mosquito Tips

Late May into early June is the official start to mosquito season here in Massachusetts. With a summer of possible rainfall and thunderstorms ahead of us, it is important to stay up to date on best practices to keep mosquito populations at bay. Aside from being a nuisance to your outdoor fun, mosquitoes leave behind pesky, itchy bites. On rare occasions, mosquitoes can transmit diseases like Triple E and West Nile Virus. Follow these three steps to minimize your contact with mosquitoes this summer:



1. Use bug repellent with DEET when spending time outdoors, especially in the evening. Mosquitoes are more active at night when out of direct sunlight.



2. Empty freestanding water traps regularly. Mosquitoes can lay hundreds of eggs in water pools as small as 1/4th of an inch, so it's important to eliminate possible breeding grounds.



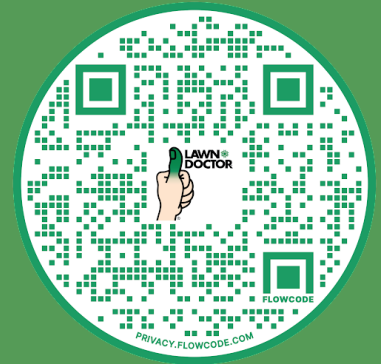
3. Keep tall grass trimmed back. Mosquitoes lay dormant in shady areas during the day to stay out of the sun and avoid getting dehydrated.

Sign up for our Blood Drive!

Join us **Thursday, June 20th 2024** at our Lawn Doctor office in Hanson from 9AM to 3:30PM for a Blood Drive with Kraft Family Blood Donor Center and Brigham and Women's Hospital! Use the QR Code to the right to visit the donor portal to select an appointment time. Our address is:

800 Franklin St., Hanson, MA 02341

Donating blood is a small act in our lives that can make a big difference in the lives of others. We hope to see you there!



Summer Lawn Word Search

M R W G Z Z N B T I J X T D J S Q H N X
 V U K W S K V T J Q C Q C M U Y B M M H
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AUGUST

GRASS

JUNE

MOSQUITOES

SWIMMING

BEACH

HUMIDITY

LAWN CARE

SUMMER

TICKS

FOURTH OF JULY

JULY

LAWN DOCTOR

SUNSHINE

VACATION