

Keep is lush

Simple ways to prevent dog-related lawn damage

Dogs love spending time outdoors. Dog owners with yards know that dogs benefit greatly from some exercise in the backyard. While that time might be great for dogs, it can take its toll on lawns.

Dog urine and feces can adversely affect the look and health of a lush green lawn. Nitrogen is essential to healthy soil, but only at certain levels. When those levels are exceeded, the result can be lawn damage. According to The Spruce Pets, an advisory site that offers practical tips and training advices to pet owners, this is what happens when pets frequently urinate on grass. Urine is naturally high in nitrogen, so when pets urinate on lawns, the grass might turn yellow or brown due to the excess nitrogen content. Nitrogen also is present in lawn fertilizers, further exacerbating the problem for pet owners who fertilize their lawns.

In addition to urine damage, dogs can trample frosted grass, contributing to

problems that may not become evident until spring, and get into areas like gardens where they wreak additional havoc.

Pet owners who want to let their dogs run free in the yard but don't want damaged grass may be tempted to put their pooches in diapers or confine them to crates when letting them outside. But such an approach isn't necessary. In fact, some simple strategies can be highly effective at preventing dog-related lawn damage.

- **Speak with a landscaper** about planting new grass. Certain types of grass, such as Bermuda grass, can withstand dog damage better than others. Local climate will dictate which types of grass are likely to thrive in a given area, so speak with a professional landscaper about the viability of planting new grass.
- **Install fencing.** Pet owners with expansive yards can install fencing that allows dogs to spend time exercising outdoors without granting them access to the entire property. Large dogs will need more room than small ones, but try to build fenced-in areas that allow dogs to run freely and get the exercise they need to stay healthy.
- **Work with a dog trainer.** Dog trainers might be able to work with dogs so they only urinate in certain areas of the yard, greatly reducing the damage they can cause to a lawn. Trainers also might help curb digging and clawing behaviors that can damage lawns as well as gardens.
- **Consider hardscaping.** Hardscaping might be most effective for pet owners with small properties. Hardscaping does not include grass and can add visual appeal to a property while saving pet owners the headaches of dealing with dog-related lawn damage.

Dogs need time outdoors, and homeowners can take various steps to protect their lawns from dog-related damage.



SCHEDULE YOUR LANDSCAPE JOB & LAWN MAINTENANCE NOW

Commercial & Residential

FREE ESTIMATES

VISIT OUR GARDEN CENTER & GIFT SHOP

OUR GREENHOUSES ARE FULL & READY TO GO

1000s of Hanging Baskets to Choose From

Annuals • Perennials • Shrubs • Custom Combo Pots
 Hanging Baskets • Garden Seed
 Vegetable Plants • Herbs • Onion Sets
 Seed Potatoes • Strawberry Plants
 Top Soil • Compost • Fertilizers • Mulch

PANSIES JUMBO 6 PACK ONLY \$3.99

Ohio Heritage Farm

Where Good Things Grow

8050 DEPOT RD., ASHTABULA
 440.969.9044 or 440.813.3404

Like us on [facebook](#)

May Hours:
 Mon.-Sat. 8am-7pm • Sunday 10am-5pm

NEIGHBORHOOD B-B-Q FEST

Gather 'round the grill

GRILLING DEMOS • FREE CHINESE AUCTION
 FREE SAMPLES & GIVEAWAYS

Date: May 4
Where: ACE HARDWARE
Time: 11am-2pm

ACE HARDWARE (HARBOR PLAZA)
 860 Lake Ave. • Ashtabula, Ohio 44004
 (440) 536-4954

ALL-AROUND STRENGTH

XT1™ LT42"
 LAWN TRACTOR

- 18 HP^{††} Cub Cadet-certified Kohler® 5400 Series single OHV engine
- 42" heavy-duty mowing deck delivers the Cub Cadet Signature Cut™

STARTING AT: **\$1,799***

Ultima™ ZT1 54"
 ZERO-TURN RIDER WITH FABRICATED DECK

- 24 HP^{††} Cub Cadet-certified Kohler® KT 7000 Series V-Twin OHV engine
- 54" AeroForce™ fabricated steel mowing deck

STARTING AT: **\$3,099***

FOR FULL PRODUCT SPECS VISIT [CUBCADET.COM](#)

LOUDERMILK TRACTOR & CYCLE

RT45

ASHTABULA, OHIO 44004

[www.loudermilks.net](#)

440-969-1211

Family Owned & Operated Since 1965

*Product Price — Actual retail prices are set by dealer and may vary. Taxes, freight, setup and handling charges may be additional and may vary. Models subject to limited availability. Specifications and programs are subject to change without notice. Images may not reflect dealer inventory and/or unit specifications. †† As rated by Kohler, all power levels are stated in gross horsepower at 3600 RPM per SAE J1940 as rated by engine manufacturer. **See your local Cub Cadet Independent Dealer for warranty details. © 2018 Cub Cadet 2017_2PV_3X8