

Pre-Emergent Herbicide Weed Control

By: Melinda Sperl

Weeds are popping up everywhere right now and it is still too cool for any kind of weed killer until the weather is consistently over 80 degrees. What you should do is apply a pre-emergent herbicide which kills the weeds seeds before the sprout.

Most weeds are spread by seeds. Even if you put the dreaded weed barrier down in your yard, you are bound to have weeds as most are airborne or spread by birds. Even if you kill the weeds in your yard today, the seeds remain in the yard to germinate for the next year. Then, year after year, you will not only have the same weeds, you will have more and more. It sounds like an endless cycle but that is where the Pre-Emergent Herbicide comes in. You apply it now and again in the fall and you can kill the weed seeds for the next germination cycle.

Weed and feed fertilizers should be applied only once (if at all) and then an active control program of the weeds if the best action. Commercially prepared pre-emergent are available. An organic option is Corn Meal Gluten that smells like cornbread and works without all the chemicals.

Melinda Sperl is a Horticulturalist and the owner of Dream Landscape Design, Inc. You can reach Melinda at Melinda@dreamlandscapedesign.com or www.dreamlandscapedesign.com