



Applying Pre-Emergent Weed Prevention in San Antonio

What is a Weed Pre-Emergent?

Weed pre-emergents are generally granular products that, when activated, create a chemical barrier in the top layer of soil that then coats the seeds of *annual* weeds and prevents them from sprouting and growing roots.

Weed pre-emergents DO NOT work on weeds that already exist.

When to Apply Weed Pre-Emergent in San Antonio

The two main time of the year to apply pre-emergent are spring and fall. When you apply pre-emergent in spring, you are preventing the weeds that arrive summer through fall. When you apply pre-emergent in fall, you are preventing the weeds that arrive late winter and spring.

Spring: apply pre emergent late February into mid March

Follow up with another application in

Fall: apply pre-emergent in late August to early September (before Labor Day)

Make sure to read the instructions on the label to know if subsequent follow-up application is required.

Choosing and Applying Weed Pre-Emergent

1. Supplies needed: Weed pre-emergent product, drop or rotary spreader, sprinkler or hose for irrigation.
2. Identify the type of weeds that you are trying to prevent (grassy or broadleaf, or both) so you purchase the correct product.

Grassy weeds: (Annual Bluegrass, Rescuegrass, Ryegrass, Crabgrass, Sandburs)

-**Dimension** has proven to be the most successful.

Broadleaf weeds: (Clover, Dandelion, Henbit, Chickweed):

-**Gallery** has proven to be the most successful

Both grassy and broadleaf weeds: You will need to make two separate applications of each of the above products. DO NOT mix them together in the spreader.

3. Calculate the area of turf that needs to be treated.

4. READ the label on the product so that you know how much area is covered, at what rate you need to apply it according to the type of spreader you have, and how much you need to buy.

5. Mow the lawn before applying pre-emergent and then apply product within a day or two of mowing.

-Wait for a few days to mow again after applying pre-emergent.

6. Calculate your spreader according to the manufacturer and the label of the product.

7. Make uniform passes over the lawn with product in the spreader.

-If using two products, make passes over the turf with one pre-emergent in one direction and when finished, apply the other pre-emergent perpendicular to the direction you applied the first product.

8. Water after application of pre-emergent.

-Pre-emergent will not be activated until watered in by at least a ½ inch of rainfall or irrigation.

-Allow irrigated turf to dry completely before pets visit turf.

9. Mark your calendar for spring weed pre-emergent application time.

*Do not use pre-emergent if you plan on overseeding lawn with ryegrass or other grass seed. (The same chemicals that prevent weeds from germinating will also prevent grass seed from germinating.)

***READ THE LABEL! IT IS YOUR BEST FRIEND!**



