

WORKING WITH HEAVY CLAY

YOUR MONTH-BY-MONTH FIELD NOTES

Use months as reminders; local weather, grass growth and establishment stage take priority. Move freeze preparation ahead of your first local freeze, even if earlier than shown.

01 JANUARY Map wet and worn areas Record puddles and traffic lanes; clay texture and compaction are different questions.	02 FEBRUARY Check the soil report Use lab advice for nutrients and pH; a test does not map drainage.	03 MARCH Wait for workable soil Avoid equipment on saturated ground even if the calendar says spring.
04 APRIL Compare resistance Check worn and unworn patches under similar moisture conditions.	05 MAY Plan the right coring window Warm-season grass needs active warmth; cool-season work needs favorable recovery conditions.	06 JUNE Inspect drainage Note where roof or paved-surface runoff enters the lawn.
07 JULY Reduce concentrated traffic Move repeated routes away from stressed or newly worked ground.	08 AUGUST Prepare necessary work Mark irrigation components and arrange utility checks before equipment work.	09 SEPTEMBER Core only if justified Use hollow tines in a suitable growing window; do not work saturated turf.
10 OCTOBER Compare the results Revisit the same patches after similar rainfall and record rooting and water movement.	11 NOVEMBER Keep outlets clear Remove leaf blockages from existing surface drains without redirecting runoff toward buildings.	12 DECEMBER Plan the next step Persistent ponding may need drainage assessment. Skip the routine bucket-of-sand fix.

Observe the cause | Choose the right growing window | Keep a short photo and care log

LAWN AREA: _____ GRASS / CULTIVAR: _____

Use current local advice and product labels. New seed, sod and plugs need separate establishment care. This is a planning sheet, not a monthly treatment schedule.



FULL GUIDE