

A CLEANER CUT

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 Read the manual Confirm maintenance steps, access limits and any battery or fuel-storage requirements.	02 FEBRUARY Know the grass Choose a locally suitable cutting height for the cultivar, not a desired stripe alone.	03 MARCH Inspect cutting quality Service or sharpen as needed with the machine made safe according to its manual.
04 APRIL Measure the cut Check the actual grass height after mowing rather than relying only on deck markings.	05 MAY Follow growth Mow often enough to avoid removing more than one-third of the leaf at once.	06 JUNE Vary the route Avoid repeatedly wearing the same wheel tracks and tight turns.
07 JULY Protect stressed turf Skip unnecessary mowing on dormant grass and avoid scalping during heat or drought.	08 AUGUST Check the blade again Ragged leaf tips can signal a cutting-quality problem; inspect safely.	09 SEPTEMBER Try gentle striping Alternate directions where practical without sacrificing grass height or safe operation.
10 OCTOBER Handle leaf cover Keep clippings and leaves from forming heavy mats on the lawn.	11 NOVEMBER Mow while it grows Let growth and soil firmness decide whether another cut is needed.	12 DECEMBER Store appropriately Follow the mower and battery or engine manual; record maintenance for next season.

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.

Penn State Extension · The impact of mowing on weed pressure



FULL GUIDE