

Get Crabby with Crabgrass

When you mow high, you'll say "good-bye!"



Annual crabgrass is one of the fastest-growing weeds on the planet. And it's larger and coarser—not to mention uglier—than any lawn grass, so it can quickly ruin the looks of an otherwise lovely lawn.

Simply by keeping your lawn mower at the maximum recommended height for your type of grass, you can wipe out low-growing crabgrass and other troublemakers. Tall grass shades and cools the soil, making it harder for weed seeds to get a toehold. Mowing high also makes for deep-rooted, healthier grass that's better able to crowd out weeds.

But the best way to control crabgrass is to prevent the seeds from ever germinating in the first place. You can check with your local Cooperative Extension Service ([click here](#) to find yours) to get the best dates for applying a pre-emerge crabgrass control, but most folks just wait for forsythias or dogwoods to start blooming—nature's sign that crabgrass seed germination is about to begin.