



# Turf Talk

## *Potassium Applications*

### *Stress Relief Program for Your Lawn*

#### *What is a Potassium Application?*

It is a supplemental granular application that is administered in the fall from October to November. Second only to nitrogen, potassium is an important mineral nutrient required for healthy plant growth. NH & VT soils are naturally low in potassium, which is the primary reason to regularly apply supplemental levels of potassium throughout the growing season.

However, a much higher rate of potassium can be applied late in the season, providing your lawn with the boost it needs to survive the winter. We apply a granular treatment of 0-0-62, Muriate of Potash at an advanced level from October through November, so your lawn will absorb the extra potassium in its leaves and roots, preparing it to weather the winter and to thrive next spring. This type of turf enhancement can only be done in the late fall due to the quantity of potassium applied in order to allow for maximum storage and results next year.

#### *What are the Benefits?*

- Improved root development
- Improved carbohydrate storage
- Improved stress tolerance for next season
- Improved heat, drought and disease resistance
- Improved turf response to nitrogen fertilization

#### *Effects of a Potassium Treatment*

During the winter season turf is put under a lot of additional stress so it is very important that your lawn be prepared to handle it. Potassium is an essential nutrient that improves winter hardiness by increasing your lawn's food reserves, enhancing its root system and reducing winter dehydration. It does this by concentrating in the cells of the leaf and root systems. This makes the plant more resistant to moisture loss and lets it keep more of the water it has stored for the winter. This gives the turf a head start in the spring and allows for quick green up after your spring application.