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How to help your lawn bounce back from winter

Winter's cold can damage your lawn. Take your grass from brown to green again with simple spring tips.

spring arrives.

spirit of rejuvenation extends to lawns. the lawn. When the last vestiges of winter begin to disappear, homeowners can dust off their gardening gloves and start taking months ahead.

CONSULT A LANDSCAPER

throughout the year, and each season which tends to be similar and produce ture from grass and cause it to brown. brings its own unique set of challenges. similar problems from one year to the Salt trucks used during winter storms Summer heat waves can make it hard for next. But inexperienced homeowners often spit salt out onto lawns, so don't lawns to maintain their lush green ap- should consult professional landscapers be surprised if you notice brown spots peal, while the falling leaves of autumn before attempting to address problems on your grass, especially in those areas can threaten root systems if not handled on their own. Winter lawn damage may closest to the road. properly. Winter frost and snow also be caused by a variety of factors that can can pose a threat to lawns, leaving hopproduce similar symptoms, and profescaused by voles, burrowing mouse-like meowners with some work to do when sional landscapers can identify the culprits behind such damage and provide Spring is a season of revival, and that the most effective solutions to restore

LOOK FOR SIGNS OF DAMAGE

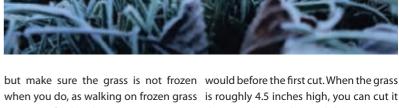
Winter can be hard on lawns, so it's steps to revitalize their lawns for the important for homeowners to look for signs of damage before they begin planning any springtime landscaping projects. Salt damage can occur in areas Homeowners with considerable ex- that received heavy snowfall over the perience tending to damaged lawns winter. Many communities use rock salt can no doubt identify and address prob- to de-ice snow- and ice-covered roads,

Lawns are exposed to the elements problems are a result of the weather, sodium chloride, which can draw mois-

Winter lawn damage may also be rodents that make paths beneath the snow to hide from predators and feed on grass blades and roots. Lawns with distinctly matted areas may also have been damaged by snow mould that can weaken turf.

REMOVE DEBRIS

A light raking can help remove any branches and fallen leaves left behind lems on their own. That's because many and that rock salt is largely made up of they need to thrive. Remove this debris, it grow a little higher than you normally



can cause further damage.

LET THE GRASS GROW

Mowing the lawn is a chore that's redebris that accumulated over the winter. served for spring, summer and maybe a priority for many homeowners, who Such debris, which may include fallen early fall, but it's important that homeowners don't jump the gun and mow too from the final days of fall, can prevent early after winter. A patient approach allawns from getting the sun and water lows the grass to reestablish itself, so let ing their post-winter lawn inspections.

down to three inches and then maintain your normal mowing routine throughout the rest of spring and summer.

Revitalizing lawns in springtime is should always consult landscaping professionals if they feel uncertain about addressing any damage they discover dur-