



Organic Site Preparation

GENERAL TIMELINE – small acreage

Spring/Summer

- Mow as short as possible in May to remove existing vegetation and cut down any woody species that may be growing to prepare site for Solarization application.
- Saturate the area with water.
- Cover the selected area with 4 to 6 mil clear plastic sheeting, extending the sheeting 6 to 8 inches beyond the edges of the area. *(This will ensure that heating occurs throughout the area designated for planting.)*
- Ensure that the plastics has good contact with the ground and leave as little air space under the plastic as possible. Tack down edges with wood strips, soil, or bricks.
- Wait 6 to 8 weeks checking intermittently for yellowing or browning of vegetation. Once the vegetation has turned brown, wait 1 more week and remove plastic.
- Clear away the dead vegetation by hand or with minimal raking. *(It is best not to rototill ever. Rototilling, or turning the soil deeply, brings seeds and pathogens to the surface where they will proliferate.)*
- Repeat 2-3 times through September to prepare site for dormant seeding.

Winter

- Dormant Seeding of planned perennial species listed on the job sheet. Please be advised to follow seeding dates for best results.

Spring/Summer

- Mow at heights of 10"-12" to control noxious weeds and aid in the establishment of the planted species.
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GENERAL TIMELINE – large acreage

Summer

- Mow as short as possible in June to remove existing vegetation and prepare site.
- Shortly after last mowing, moldboard plow the site during dry weather at a minimum of 6" to ensure roots and seed bank will be folded under.

Fall

- **Lightly** disk the plowed area no more than 2-4 "deep to smooth out furrows and prepare the site for dormant seeding.

Winter

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Spring/Summer

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