



New Lawn Establishment

Whether you are establishing a lawn from seed or sod, proper watering and care is crucial to its success and health!

Newly Seeded Lawns

- Water daily up to 2X/day with a light but thorough sprinkling. DO NOT use a parallel sprinkler as this will dislodge seed and soil, but rather an oscillating sprinkler that will deliver a lighter spray.
- Keep the seedbed moist, but not soggy, to a depth of 1"-2" until germination occurs. Germination rates will depend on the type of grass seed planted— some may germinate in as little as a week, others may take up to three weeks. Knowing what type of seed has been planted for your site will help in expectations.
- Once you can see a green cast of 1/2" tall seedlings you can reduce the amount of water, but still make sure the tender shoots do not become stressed to the point of wilt. You may still need to water several times a week.
- As seedlings reach a height of 2" or more, you can reduce the frequency of watering, but water for longer periods of time to allow the water to infiltrate the soil, encouraging deep root growth. Continue throughout the first season. Without a well developed root system, grass is more prone to diseases and stress during adverse conditions.

New Sod Installation

New Sod Care differs from Seeded Lawns

- Water daily up to 2X/day so that the entire strip of sod and top inch of soil under it are wet. If it is overly hot and windy, consider more during the day.
- Do not let the sod dry out. If this occurs, the pieces will shrink next to each other, creating gaps in-between the pieces. These will not expand back into shape.
- After about two weeks, the sod roots should be establishing well. Reduce the frequency of watering, but continue to water deep for more root expansion. Do not oversaturate as this will lead to root rot.

Mowing and Fertilization

- You can start mowing when the grass is about 3" tall. Mow when the soil is firm, not soggy, and the grass well rooted.
- DO NOT fertilize new lawns as the root systems are not established well and cannot support a flush of top growth. After 4-6 weeks a complete fertilizer can be applied that contains a slow-release Nitrogen.
- A Fall fertilization application will aid in pushing root growth and tillering or developing of new plants. Additionally, late fall feedings will be stored in the roots until spring.
- Weed seeds may be present in the soil and you may get a flush of growth. Do not treat the first few months as this will damage the grass. Many weeds will be eliminated once mowing begins.
- If you develop insect or disease problems, consult with us to correctly identify and treat any damage.

Quick Tips

- * Test Moisture Levels
- * Long, deep watering is more beneficial than short bursts
- * Avoid late day watering as fungal issues can manifest from wet conditions