

Mowing Your Lawn

A new lawn should be mowed as soon as the grass blades are 2-3" tall. Delaying the first cutting will cause the long grass blades to bend over, resulting in a shabby appearance. Subsequent mowing should be done often and lawn mower blades should always be maintained and sharp to prevent bruised and torn grass. The cutting heights for lawns vary according to grass species. Fescues and Blue grasses should be mowed at a height of 2" or more.

Watering Your Established Lawn

Watering is most effective if done during the evening or early morning hours when sunlight cannot cause excessive evaporation. After your lawn becomes established, it requires approximately 1" of water per week. The soil should be soaked thoroughly when watered. Water should penetrate at least 6" into the soil to insure deep rooting.

Fertilizing Your Lawn

A commercial starter fertilizer was applied with your lawn seed and hydro-mulch fibers. This initial application of fertilizer should provide the nutrients to give the young grass seedlings a healthy start. We follow up with two applications of slow-release turf fertilizer at 4-6 week intervals after germination. We do not recommend any chemical applications within the first growing season of your new lawn.

Maintaining Shaded Areas

Shaded areas require some additional effort to assure healthy turf. Turf in these areas usually suffer in the following ways:

- Tree root systems tend to rob nutrients and moisture from the grass.
- Lack of sunlight caused by the shading of trees.
- Fallen leaves create a matted condition which prevents the turf from adequate exposure to sunlight and air.

Adequate nutrients for turf can be provided by fertilizing trees and heavily fertilizing the turf. Leaves should be raked early in the spring while the tree branches are still bare to allow the maximum amount of sunlight to reach this grass which is generally shaded throughout the remainder of the growing season. Large yard trees can be thinned to allow light to penetrate their canopy as another measure to combat shading problems.

Pest Control

A healthy lawn that is properly cared for will rarely show significant signs of insect damage. Pests are present at all times in your lawn. If visible damage has been observed, chemical treatment is recommended. If the problem persists, it is best to contact a lawn specialist.

What Is Hydro-seeding?

Hydro-seeding is a process whereby water, fertilizer, and wood fiber mulch are mixed and are applied over the ground. In one application the ground is seeded, fertilized, and watered. The soft, green mat that you see is hydro-mulch a virgin wood fiber that performs these functions.

- **Water Retention:** Because hydro-mulch fibers can retain up to ten times their weight in water, seeds are kept moist. The result is a thicker, more uniform grass stand.
- **Protection:** Hydro-mulch fibers protect young seeds from the scorching sun and maintains soil temperature. It forms an almost perfect environment for maximum germination.
- **Soil Retention:** Hydro-mulch fibers help prevent water and wind erosion.

Straw mulching and jute netting are additional soil retention procedures commonly used in conjunction with hydro-seeding to prevent erosion. Due to "Acts of God" we are not able to guarantee against excessive erosion. As your lawn grows and becomes established, the mulch and jute netting will gradually decompose and add nourishment to the soil.

The First Fourteen Days

The establishment of your hydro-seeded lawn is easy. The seed, fertilizer, and mulch are in place. All you have to do is water it! Keep the lawn moist at all times, preferably by frequent light sprinklings. This watering process should be repeated until the first cutting. The germinating seedlings will die if they are allowed to dry out. Do not let the lawn dry out!

Settling

Occasionally on new construction sites, various excavations have not had adequate time or moisture to completely settle. For this reason, settling directly or indirectly related to lawn installation is not able to be guaranteed against.

Weeds

Weeds and other extraneous vegetation may appear in your new lawn. They come from seeds which have lain dormant in the existing soil or which have been carried in by wind and animals. Chemical weed control should not be applied during the first growing season of your lawn. Weeds can best be controlled by growing healthy grass. Grass which is properly watered, mowed and well-fertilized provides too much competition for weed plants to gain a stronghold. Should your lawn ever become damaged or have bare spots, re-seed these areas immediately to prevent competitive weed growth. If weeds do appear, consult your lawn service for the proper weed control methods.