

HYDROSEEDED LAWN INSTRUCTIONS

WATERING

Your new lawn seed requires water, warmth, and sunlight to germinate. Your job will be to provide the water. The mulch/seed mixture must be kept constantly moist or the seed will die! Set your timers to sprinkle for 10 minutes, every two hours during the day. Start at 10am, then 12 noon, 2pm, 4pm, and 6pm. Depending on the weather (extra hot and windy) you may want to add a cycle on each end – 8am and 8pm. If you encounter standing water and puddles then you are watering too much and will want to cut back to 5 minutes or so. On rainy days you may need to turn your sprinklers off completely (Don't forget to turn them back on again). If some areas are not coming in as well as others, it's a watering problem! After 5 weeks, taper back your watering to once per day in the morning. By 8 weeks, your lawn will be fully established and will require about 1 ½ inches of water per week.

SUMMARY

- KEEP CONSTANTLY MOIST, ALL DAY FOR 5 WEEKS.
- SHORT DURATIONS< FREQUENT CYCLES – NEW LAWNS
- ADJUST FOR RAINY DAYS
- HAND WATER IF NECESSARY
- LONG DURATION, INFREQUENT CYCLES – ESTABLISHED LAWNS

FERTILIZING

When your lawn is 4 weeks old, it will be ready for its first mowing. Mow it short this time and fertilize with a high nitrogen fertilizer. (Do not use Weed and Feed until after the third mowing). I recommend UREA 46-0-0. Ammonium Nitrate 34-0-0, or Ammonium Sulphate 21-0-0 are the next best substitutes. Thereafter, fertilize every 2 months. March 15^h., May 15th., July 15th., and September 15th. are good times.

WEEDS

Your soil most likely has a lot of weed seeds that are going to sprout along with your new grass seed. Don't be alarmed! If you only have a few, you may wish to pull them after 2 – 3 weeks. Usually after several mowing's, they will be gone. Any that remain can be killed with an application of 2-4-D or you can apply "Weed and Feed" for your next fertilizer application. Remember not to Weed and Feed or 2-4-D before the third mowing. The very young grass seedlings can't take it! For your March 15th. application you may use a "Pre-Emergent" type fertilizer to prevent weeds and crab grass from sprouting (established lawns only).

TIPS FOR A PLUSH, CARPET LIKE LAWN

- Fertilize on schedule to maintain a deep green color. This also keeps the grass thick and will make it difficult for weed seeds to establish. Early spring and late fall are especially important. The best herbicide is nitrogen and water!
- Set your mower high! Short lawns are weak, thin, drought intolerant, and subject to weed infestation. 2.5" – 3" is ideal.
- Mow often! The more frequent you mow, the thicker your turf will get. Never cut more than 1/3 of blade at a time if possible. The thickest lawns are mowed twice, sometimes 3 times a week! (Most lawns are lucky to get mowed once a week).
- Change patterns, (i.e. Diagonal the other way next mowing). This helps to mask irregularities in contours and high and low areas. It also looks good!
- Level out low spots. Get a bale of peat moss and after each mowing, sprinkle and work in peat moss with a rake. You can fill in low spots about 1 inch per week and make your yard as perfectly level as you want.