

Soil Preparation for Optimal Results from Hydro seeding

Sprinklers

Sprinklers should be run and checked for coverage and spray patterns before the final raking.

Raking

The very most critically important step in preparation is to rake the surface to a depth of $\frac{3}{4}$ " dry soil. If any hard areas, or even very lightly crusted areas are not raked out, or if the ground is wet, these will be problem areas! If the soil is too soft or loose and leaves deep footprints when walked on, these areas will not grow well either. Once again, dry freshly raked, and leaving about $\frac{3}{4}$ " footprint when walked on is ideal. Ensure that "puddle traps" are raked level.

Weeds

Any weeds should be eliminated prior to hydro seeding. A small weed already growing will become enormous by the time the grass seed becomes established. Don't give the weeds a head start. The grass will eventually choke them out, but weeds don't look good. An application of Round-up (Sodium Glyphosate) 5 days before seeding will eliminate even the toughest weeds.

Soil Amendments

Though not absolutely necessary, your long term success will be enhanced by incorporating organic matter into the soil by tilling or raking. Stable manure, mink farm manure, or municipal compost are excellent choices and locally available at low cost or even free!

Once again, rake last. If it rained even slightly, or if the sprinklers came on momentarily.....Rake! This simple step will ensure you a thick, fast beautiful lawn.