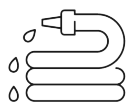


# TAKING CARE OF YOUR NEW LAWN

Establishing a new lawn and landscaping can be both rewarding and frustrating. Follow these guidelines for the best possible outcome. Have questions? Ask us! It's better to get your questions answered right away than wait and be dissatisfied with the end result. **We are here to help!**



- **Do not remove the erosion control straw netting.** This netting is a 45-60 day decomposing biodegradable product. You can mow it and it will add to the organic fertilizer (straw). Premature removal of the netting can result in the erosion of ungerminated seed and can damage the fragile root system of the grass. It also voids your lawn warranty.
- Our seed mix is a Premium Wisconsin Blend which contains a mix of annual, fescue and Kentucky Bluegrass. The annual and fescue are the first to germinate. The Kentucky Bluegrass begins to germinate 2-3 weeks after the annual. This mix can be found at Reinders Landscape Supply or Pro-green Plus.



- **Lack of proper watering is the number one reason why new lawns fail to establish.**
- Establish moisture between 1-2" deep to keep the root zone moist.
- Water your new lawn 2-3 times daily, depending on rainfall.
- Continue this schedule until the seed has fully germinated (approximately 4-5 weeks).
- Water regularly until the 5th mowing. Then water as needed, depending on weather.
- Sod should continue to be watered to stay wet until the roots have taken to the soil. Then water as needed, depending on weather conditions.



- Plantings should be watered around the foliage of the plant to help soften the existing soil and for the roots to achieve moisture. Water as needed, depending on temperatures.
- Plants usually fail within the first 3 weeks and it is typically due to incorrect watering. If there is too much water the leaves will turn brown and be soft. If there is not enough water the leaves will turn brown and be crispy.



- Start mowing your new lawn when it grows to 3 inches.
- To prevent seeding damage, mow with a sharp blade, removing no more than 1/3 of the grass blade.



- Seeded lawns can take up to 2 years to fully mature and establish. If the color is a light green or yellow, fertilizer is needed. Fertilizer can be purchased from Pro Green Plus, Reinders Landscape Supply, or any feed mill. This will help the grass to grow thick and reduce the weed population.
- Apply starter fertilizer/lawn food (10-10-10 composition) according to the label with a broadcast spreader every 2-3 weeks after the installation.
- **Do not apply weed and feed until the lawn has been mowed at least 7 times.** After the 7th mowing you can apply a weed control. Then follow a seasonal program of fertilizer applications. Weed and feed can damage the new seedlings if applied too early.
- Sod can be fertilized after the 3rd mowing and a normal fertilization program can begin.
- During the hot and humid months of summer crab and quack grass seeds germinate. This is an annual grass seed that is dormant in all soils and cannot be eradicated with herbicide. It will die out after the first hard frost.

