

New Sod Care Guide



We understand that this sod installation is an investment so we would like to assist you in making the most of it! With the appropriate amount of attention and care, your new plant install will flourish. We've put together a simple care manual for your new sod that will lead to a healthy vibrant lawn. The following guide may be changed appropriately if the season is excessively dry or wet.

Weeks 1 & 2

The key to establishing new sod is to keep it properly watered for the first month. Water the sod 2-4 times per day for about 15-20 min the first 7-14 days, depending on the season. It is very important to make sure that the sod never dries out. The roots will penetrate faster and root down sooner if properly watered. At the end of the second week, let the sod dry up enough so it can be mowed (no lower than 3.5"). Make sure the edges are rooted or they can get sucked up into the mower blades and damage the sod.

Weeks 3 & 4 -

The following two weeks of this process is used to transition from frequent daily watering to fewer cycles per day and increase the number of days between watering. During week 3, reduce watering to 1-3 times per day and skip a day between watering if the new sod is not drying out. By week 4, water 1 to 2 times every other day. After week 4, your new yard should be ready to go 2 to 3 days between watering (**Water your lawn in the evening or early morning when less evaporation occurs - morning is best to prevent fungus from developing**).

Rest of the Season -

Your new lawn will need more water the first growing season and especially the first 6 months. As it roots deeper over the course of a year, it will need less water. If your lawn looks dry, it probably needs watering. The key to new sod care during this time is deep watering less frequently. This will help the roots grow down and develop a deep root system that uses less water. It is ok after the first two months to stress your lawn a little. This means let your yard dry out a bit and when you see signs of stress starting to appear, make sure to water.

Mow if Grass exceeds 3.5" -

Your new lawn should be mowed at the end of week 2 or if you lawn exceeds 3 1/2" tall. Back off on the watering so the turf is dry to the touch and firm enough to walk on without sinking in. If your new lawn reaches over 3 1/2", mow off a third of the length even if it has not been two weeks. It is important that you do not cut shorter than 2" for the first few times you mow. Exercise caution the first time you mow so you do not damage or pull up the sod. If some of the sod does move around, don't worry. Just put it back in place and it will grow in.