

Watering New Sod

Start watering **IMMEDIATELY** after the sod is installed. Water frequently and thoroughly for the first 7 to 10 days. When adequately watered, the sod will feel soft when you walk on it. In hot, dry weather, this will mean sprinkling each area every day. In cool moist weather, sprinkling may be necessary only every other day, every third day or not at all.

The proper amount of watering will cause the sod to be completely moist and penetrate the underlying soil a couple of inches. If too much water is applied, the ground will be soggy and footsteps will leave indentations. If insufficient water is applied, the sod will first turn a light gray-green color as it wilts, and then turns brown. The proper amount of water will cause the ground to be a little soft, but will still permit foot traffic. Make sure that when watering, there is an overlapping pattern, this will avoid dry spots. Pay particular attention to the edges, which dry out quickly.

Frequently Asked Questions

What time of day is it best to water? Ideally, watering early in the day allows the sun and wind to dry the grass blades while their roots are irrigated. Watering at night can encourage disease, which spreads in damp conditions. There will be less evaporation if the watering is done during a time of day that is not hot and windy. Many municipalities have watering restrictions. These typically do not apply to new landscape planting.

When can our new sod be mowed? Continue frequent watering until the grass is approximately three inches high. This should be about 10 days to two weeks after installation. Be sure to set your mower to a high setting, about 2 ½", and mow the sod very carefully. You don't want to cut off more than about 1 inch of new grass. Clippings should be caught with a grass catcher, or removed to avoid smothering the tender sod. It is important not to wait too long and allow the grass to get too tall before the first mowing. Removing more than 1" of growth can "shock" the grass.

What about after the first cutting? After the first cutting the sod should be knitted down (rooted) and the watering can be reduced. Just keep the sod slightly moist until the fourth cutting, at which point treat it like any established lawn. Allow the ground to dry and then water fairly heavy. One inch of water per week in the form of rain or sprinkling is about right. It is best to apply this water in one or two applications rather than several light sprinklings. The object is to keep as little moisture as possible on the surface where shallow rooted weeds like to grow. You want to encourage the grass roots to grow deeply to seek moisture.

What types of equipment might I need? Protect your investment and with good quality sprinklers and hoses. With proper care, both will last for years. We recommend the following equipment: · 1 Adjustable Oscillating Sprinkler · 2 Timers · 1 Adjustable Rotary Impulse Sprinkler · 1 Rain Gauge · Enough hose to reach the furthest corner of the front and rear lawns · Small plastic shut offs to place between hose and the sprinkler.

Helpful Hints

- Don't water by hand if you can use a sprinkler. Not many people have the time or patience to hold a hose for as long as is necessary. Use timers to shut the water off if you are not available to do so manually.
- When setting sprinklers, start with the furthest point in the yard. Moving the sprinkler may be accomplished by pulling on the hose rather than walking in the freshly watered area.
- Be sure that the corners and edges are thoroughly covered. Overlap settings so that there are no gaps in areas being watered.
- To see how long it takes to water, use a rain gauge, coffee can, or straight sided jar set under a sprinkler to see how long it takes to apply one inch of water.

OUR SODDING WARRANTY SUMMARIZED: Sodded Lawns: We will replace one time, without charge, any sod planted by us that dies within a period of thirty days from the date of installation. If resodding or patching is necessary, this work will be performed as soon as the weather and season permits. The above warranty is contingent upon the homeowner carrying out the above watering and care instructions as well as the following: Pest control: Keep plants free of injurious insects and diseases by timely and proper application of pesticides.

Our warranty is void if:

- Payment is not made in full and within 30 days of the invoice date
- Plants are damaged by man, animal, insects, mechanical damage, negligence, and acts of God.
- Plants not planted in the ground
- Plants damaged by misuse of herbicides or pesticides by the homeowner or any of its agents.

We Overseeded Your Lawn

The first few weeks after your lawn is seeded are critical to the new seeds' survival! You will need to follow the instructions below to insure your seeds' success. You may need to invest in a hose, timer and sprinkler to help during this period of establishment as well as throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons.

- It is important to keep the seed covering (peat moss/compost) damp for the first two weeks. Once seedlings have germinated, they should not be allowed to dry out. Water often, rather than deeply. Only the top inch of soil needs to be kept moist during the establishment period. Once established, grass should be watered infrequently and deeply.
- Fertilizer was applied at the time of seeding, and will not be necessary for approximately two months. Also, note all lawns should be fertilized each spring and fall for proper growth.
- If new soil was added, you may experience some weed growth along with your new grass. Most of these weeds are annual seedlings and will be removed, or die out after your first mowing, and as your lawn matures. It is important to remember that new lawns need regular fertilization and broadleaf weed control.

Care of Newly Seeded Lawns

The first five weeks after your lawn is seeded are critical to the survival of new seeds. Plan to be available to care for the seeded area during this important time of establishment. You will need to follow the instructions below to insure your seeds' success. You may need to invest in a hose, timer and sprinkler to help during this period of establishment as well as throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons.

- It is best if all traffic is kept off the newly seeded area until the first mowing.
- It is important to keep the seed covering (peat moss/compost) damp for the first two weeks. Newly germinated seedlings die quickly if allowed to dry out. Water often, rather than deeply. Only the top one-inch of soil needs to be kept moist during the establishment period. Avoid creating puddles in the soil. Once grass is established it should be watered infrequently and deeply.
- Five weeks after successful germination, the grass should be ready to mow.
- The grass may be played on approximately six weeks after seeding.
- Weed killers may be applied after the second mowing.
- Fertilizer was applied at the time of seeding, and will not be necessary for approximately two months. Also note, all lawns should be fertilized twice each spring and once in the fall for proper growth.
- If new soil was added, you may experience some weed growth along with your new grass. Most of these weeds are annuals and their seedheads will be cut off with each mowing. It is important to remember that new lawns need regular fertilization and broadleaf weed control.

The peat moss/compost covering we have applied will help in maintain soil moisture and promote germination. Dry, windy days mean more frequent watering, cool wet periods need far less. It is important to check to see if the soil is moist. If it's dry, add water. Remember, too much water is as great a danger as too little. A little common sense and observing eyes coupled with these instructions will give your newly seeded lawn the care it needs to flourish. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us immediately.

OUR SEEDED LAWN WARRANTY SUMMARIZED:

Seeded Lawns: We warranty a reasonable stand of grass over 90% of the seeded area within 60 days of the date of installation. We will reseed one time, without charge, any lawn planted by us that fails to meet this standard. If reseeding is necessary, this work will be performed as soon as the weather and season permits.

The above warranty is contingent upon the homeowner carrying out the above watering and care instructions as well as the following: Pest control: Keep plants free of injurious insects and diseases by timely and proper application of pesticides.

Our warranty is void if:

- Payment is not made in full and within 30 days of the invoice date
- Plants are damaged by man, animal, insects, mechanical damage, negligence, and acts of God.
- Plants not planted in the ground
- Plants damaged by misuse of herbicides or pesticides by the homeowner or any of its agents.

Please refer to our contract for complete details regarding our warranty.

Watering New Plants

The first two weeks after the installation of your plants is critical to their survival! Plan to be available to “baby” your new plants during this important time of establishment. Watering every 3-4 days is necessary for trees and shrubs. Perennials and groundcovers should be watered more often because their root balls are much smaller, approximately every 2-3 days. Ideally, water is best applied early in the day but it is more important to water thoroughly and deeply than to worry about the time of day!! The thing to remember about plant establishment is WATER, WATER, WATER. You may want to invest in a hose, timer and sprinkler to help. If you have an irrigation system, it is crucial that you inspect it carefully to make sure that it is reaching all the new plantings. Almost all systems need adjustment after plant installation. Also, make sure it is set to give adequate water for plant establishment, not maintenance.

Trees and Shrubs: Place the open end of the hose at the base of the plant and allow it to gently flow onto the root ball of the plant. The rate of flow should be such that it soaks into the soil without running off or puddling. You can water each plant individually--five to ten minutes per four feet of plant, or place a sprinkler to cover the area for several (3-5) hours (we do not recommend use of a soaker hose as the only source of water during this initial establishment period).

Groundcover and Perennials: These plants have much smaller root balls than their woody companions and thus will need more frequent watering. Sprinklers are probably the easiest way to apply water. A sprinkler should be set to run for one to two hours allowing water to penetrate the top 6-12” of soil. After the first two weeks, the new plant material will need less frequent watering. At this time, you should reduce watering to 1-2 times per week. Hot, windy weather will call for more frequent watering. Each watering must be a deep, thorough soaking. The rule of thumb is to apply one inch of water per week during the growing season. This can be accurately measured by setting a can or rain gauge in the planting area and making sure the sprinkler, or the sky fills it to the recommended amount at least once per week (please note-- one inch of water wets the soil to a depth of 8-10”). The mulch we have applied will help in maintaining soil moisture. Dry, windy days mean more frequent watering, cool wet periods need far less. It is important to check the soil conditions by probing the soil with a shovel or trowel if you are unsure as to its moisture condition. If it is dry, add water, if it is moist--sit back and enjoy your plantings. Remember, too much water is as great a danger as too little. A little common sense and observing eyes coupled with these instructions will give your new plants the care they need to flourish. Proper watering during the first growing season is the single most important factor in successful transplanting, so if you’re uncertain, concerned, or have any questions, please don’t hesitate to call us immediately and remember We at Nature’s Perspective are proud to offer one of the best warranties in the business. We back not only trees, and shrubs, but also perennials, roses and groundcover.

OUR WARRANTY SUMMARIZED:

Woody plants: We will replace one time, any tree, shrub, evergreen or vine planted by us that dies within 18 months from the date of installation. Labor charges apply. Perennials, roses and groundcover: We will replace one time, any perennials planted by us that die within a period of ninety days from the date of installation. Labor charges apply.

The above warranty is contingent upon the homeowner carrying out the above watering instructions as well as the following:

Pest control: Keep plants free of injurious insects and diseases by timely and proper application of pesticides. Cultivation: Keep plants free of weeds.

Our warranty is void if:

- Payment is not made in full and within 30 days of the invoice date
- Plants are damaged by man, animal, insects, mechanical damage, negligence, and acts of God.
- Plants not planted in the ground
- Plants damaged by misuse of herbicides or pesticides by the homeowner or any of its agents.