## SHORT TERM CARE

## **Care and Watering**

### First day watering

The sod should be watered thoroughly as soon as it is laid. Check by walking on it. If you make deep footprints it has enough water. If the soil is firm, lift corner of the sod to inspect. The soil on the back of the sod should be damp to wet. If it is not damp, water for at least 30 minutes.

### Second through fifth day of watering.

Check your lawn at a minimum of once per day (more often when it is hot or windy). Walk on the new lawn to inspect it. If the soil is soft and you make deep footprints or water has puddles in areas it is too wet and you should discontinue watering for awhile and water less often with less water. If the soil is fir, lift a corner of the sod in several areas. The soil should be damp, not dripping wet or dusty dry. Areas where the grass has wilted or turned a straw color indicate it has not received enough water. Seeing green grass turn brown almost overnight will get your attention! The grass did not get enough water, causing the leaves to die. The roots and crowns are still alive and in most instances, new leaves will appear in seven to ten days. Cracks that appear between the rolls indicate that not enough water has been applied and you should water longer and more often. Temperatures above 25degrees generally mean more water is needed and below 15 degrees means less water is needed. In the cooler months of April, May October and November, sod needs less water.

## **Further Watering**

After approximately five days, the soil has soaked up water like a sponge and you must reduce your watering habits or you will drown the new roots. Roots will not grow into waterlogged soils! Begin stretching out the time between the watering. Reset your timer if you have an automatic system. Begin the transition under Long Term Care Instructions.

### How soon can the sod be used?

The sod is ready to be used instantly. The only concern is the underlying soft soil. Making deep footprints when the soil is soft will not harm the sod but will make for an uneven lawn. If children play and turn up a corner just pat it back down.

### **WEED KILLERS**

Your sod does not require any. Should a dandelion be present, just pull it out.

### **FERTILIZATION**

The lawn does not need fertilizer for two weeks. You can then hire our professional lawn service team or begin a program from your local garden centre.

#### **GUARANTEE**

Sod is guaranteed to be in good growing condition at the time of sale. Following the sale, it is the purchasers responsibility. If the sod is not watered properly, it will not grow. Call us immediately at the time of closing if the sod is anything but healthy and we will give the matter prompt attention.

## **LONG TERM CARE**

## **Proper Watering**

The proper way to water a mature lawn is simple. Thoroughly but infrequently. When the soil is dry to a depth of five inches, water long enough to re wet the soil five inches deep.

### **Mowing**

May through September, mow at 4 inches high. From September through November, gradually lower the height to a final height of 3 inches. Mowing high like this results in fewer weed problems and healthier lawns.

## **Clippings**

Clippings do not contribute to thatch production. Clippings should not be collected unless they are long and smother the grass. Leaving the clippings recycles the nutrients back onto the lawn, saving the fertilizer costs.

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#### **FERTILIZATION**

It is important to fertilize by a program, whether you contact us for a lawn care package or do it yourself.

#### **WEED CONTROL**

The first line of weed defense is to have a thick lawn that is mowed high. If you hire our lawn services, we will suggest the best program for you. If you plan to do it yourself, visit your favorite garden center to select the method that is right for you.

### **WEED AND GRUB CONTROLS**

Unfortunately advertising has made the threats from these pests seem larger than they really are. Large sums of money are wasted and pesticides are unnecessarily added to the environment. Spot treat thin areas that have had weeds in the past in the spring before it comes up, or have a lawn service spot treat grubs, but it takes more than five per square foot to cause damage. To save yourself money and protect the environment, become informed. The internet is a good place to start learning and find good links.

#### **AERATION**

The purpose aeration is to loosen up a compacted soil. Compaction comes from two sources. New lawns can be compacted during construction and may benefit if aerated in the first two years. Vehicle traffic, intense wear from dogs or under a swing set can also compact soils. Studies show that core aeration is the method that provides the most benefits and one or two passes does not accomplish much. Core aeration is not a substitute for dethatching.

#### **DETHATCHING**

Thatch is the layer of coca brown material below the leaves and above the soil. A half inch of thatch is idea, while more than ¾ inch is excessive and will cause lawn problems. Clippings do not add thatch. Over watering is the most common cause of excessive thatch levels.

# Lawn care packages

## Make it Green

3 Fertilizer Applications2 Lime Applications

## **Keep it Green**

Aeration
Overseeding
4 Fertilizer Applications
2 Lime Applications

## **Always Green**

Aeration
Dethatching/Clean Up
Overseeding
4 Fertilizer Applications
2 Lime Applications

## **SERVICES OFFERED**

Fertilizing

Liming

**Aeration** 

Dethatching

**Over Seeding** 

**Weed Control** 

**Vegetation Kill** 

Free quote!

For more info Contact Deana 257-4881

