



## Instructions for Your New Lawn

**Congratulations on your new lawn!** Please take a moment to review the following instructions and follow them as best as possible. **The number one most important step to ensure your lawn succeeds is watering. Once a seed is wet, it must stay wet or else it will die.** Please contact us with any questions. Happy lawn growing!!

### **Initial Watering (day 1 to day 30):**

Although the straw applied over the new seeds will reduce evaporation, it is very important to make sure the seeds are kept constantly moist until the grass blades are a few inches tall. **We recommend watering your new lawn 2-3 times daily for the first 3-4 weeks.** The key here is that once a grass seed is moist, it must stay moist or else the seed will die. Lack of proper watering is the most common reason why lawns fail to establish. We recommend an automatic, programmable watering system for use with your hoses if you do not have irrigation. These systems are usually less than \$60 and are a great, hassle free investment for a beautiful lawn. One system our customer's have enjoyed is the Orbit Automatic Yard Watering System at Home Depot ([www.homedepot.com](http://www.homedepot.com) & enter the SKU "345179" in the Keyword/Search box to view product).

### **Maintenance Watering (day 30 and beyond):**

Once the grass is a few inches tall, less frequent, deeper, watering is required to promote deep root growth. Frequency of watering depends on the weather conditions; typically look to water every two to six days. Attempt to saturate the soil 10-14" deep to stimulate the roots to grow to the deeper levels. Always allow the soil surface to dry between waterings (excess moisture on the leaves and soil surface for extended periods can cause diseases). We recommend using a fan sprinkler or installing irrigation.

### **Special Notes:**

We recommend over-seeding in the following fall or spring to ensure a full lawn and to fill in any spots that did not develop properly. There are many reasons a lawn may have underdeveloped places: heavy rainfall can wash seed away, strong winds can blow away straw, a neighbor's chemicals, and lack of proper watering are just a few. There is an extra charge for us to come back out to reseed or restraw.

### **Care:**

**Fertilizer:** We recommend a second application of starter fertilizer about a month after your yard is planted. For future years, plan to fertilize four times per year: 1. early April, 2. mid May, 3. mid Sept., 4. late Oct. Anytime new seeds are put down, always use starter fertilizer. If new seeds are not put down, use any fertilizer you feel is appropriate, and always follow the instructions on the bag. **Crabgrass and weed preventer:** Good to put down in the spring, but not when planting new seeds. Be very careful with these as they can kill your lawn if not applied properly, always follow directions.

*Please call our office if you have any questions: 618-397-9700  
We hope you enjoy your new lawn. Thank you for your business!*

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