



NEW SOD CARE & LAWN CARE TIPS

WHEN TO WATER TIP: Today's grasses are designed to develop deeper, more dense roots. This enables the grass to withstand longer periods between watering/rain. The first sign that the grass will soon need water will be the appearance of a blue-green or dull green color. At this point it is not necessary to water, but instead monitor it closely. Temperature and weather conditions will dictate how long it will be before it needs water. If the appearance/color does not change, wait to water.

WHERE TO WATER TIP: To save water and money, water only the areas that need water. For example, southern exposures, hills and heat reflection areas off of buildings and blacktop will require more water. Shaded areas, swales and northern exposures will require less water. If it rains, you may not have to water as much, or possibly not at all. When using an irrigation system, DO NOT SET and FORGET.

HOW MUCH TO WATER TIP: Typically, 1" – 1-1/2" which equates to approximately 1-1/2 to 2 hours in each area of the lawn depending on your supplied water volume and pressure. To achieve this, break up the watering to 2-4 different times for each area to prevent excess water runoff. This is easily done if you have an irrigation system.

TRAFFIC CAUTION: Do not walk on the new sod for the first 2 weeks. You will put footprints in it because it is so wet. Try to setup sprinklers from the perimeter or landscape beds, patios, sidewalks, driveway, etc. Use your new lawn sparingly until good root establishment has taken place in about 3 to 5 weeks.

HEALTH TIP: Grass that is overwatered will have a very shallow, weak root structure and will require more frequent water... indefinitely.

FALL SEASON TIP: It is beneficial to all landscape plants to have sufficient moisture in the ground before freeze up. Be sure to water late into the fall if the weather has been dry.

MOWING TIP: Mowing is like pruning a plant, tree or shrub. More frequent mowing will produce more dense grass and roots. Do not mow the grass when it is wet. For best results, be sure to keep your mower blades sharp.

IMPORTANT MOWING RULE: Never remove more than 1/3 of the height of the grass at one time. Recommendation is to have your mower set at the highest setting then work your way down with each mowing.

FERTILIZER: Hire a good lawn maintenance company to fertilize for you or if you prefer to maintain your lawn yourself, apply a good root builder fertilizer such as 25-0-15.

PROPER MAINTENANCE INVOLVES:

- a. A good balance of nutrients provided by proper fertilization.
- b. Proper mowing practices
- c. Proper water management
- d. Regular Core Aeration

For more Lawn Care Information visit our website at: www.LukesSod.com