

Caring For Your New Sod Fact Sheet

Watering

Please begin watering your new sod as the weather warms. Your watering efforts, combined with the contractor's, will help ensure its vigor.

New sod requires about 2 inches of water per week, given in 3 or 4 applications. More frequent, lighter watering is not desirable as it encourages shallow roots instead of deep roots. Lawns need deep roots to help them withstand periods of little or no rain.

During extended hot and dry periods, new sod should be thoroughly soaked every day if allowed by the City's watering restrictions. To view the watering restrictions, visit www.edinamn.gov/utilities-watering-restrictions.

To determine if you are watering enough, place a shallow, flat-bottomed container under the sprinkler, then measure the water accumulated in the container. *Any rainfall received during the week can be included in your 2-inch total.*

Once the warranty period expires, it will be entirely up to you to water and maintain the sod. Neither the contractor nor the City of Edina will be responsible for replacing dead sod after the warranty period. Watering and lawn care will be especially important if there is a lack of rainfall or hot temperatures.

Mowing and Fertilizing

Do not mow your sod for at least 3-4 weeks – until it lies over and mats down when wetted, or goes to seed. Set the mower deck at the highest setting and cut the new sod with this setting for the first few months. This is important as your new sod may die if you cut it too short or at the same setting as the one used to cut your mature lawn.

Please note that the sod was fertilized at the place it was grown; therefore, it will not need fertilizer until this fall. If you fertilize sooner, you may risk killing the sod.

Future Maintenance

Remember, even after the sod appears to have taken hold; it is not as sturdy as an established lawn. It takes a while for the roots to reach their mature length. Until then, the sod is susceptible to dry conditions. Remember to water deeply. It is also advisable to let the sod grow a little longer than normal when conditions are dry.

If applicable, please pass this information on to your lawn care service providers.