

Planting Your New Lawn:

1. Prepare the seed bed by tilling soil to a depth of 3-4 inches, remove any debris and rocks.
2. Rake and smooth the seed bed, apply a starter fertilizer.
3. Apply lawn seed at a rate of 1 lb. Per 250 sq. ft. (this is a general rule, pay attention to the coverage rate on your grass seed bag!)
4. Lightly rake the seed into the soil to a maximum of 1/8 inch depth.
5. If you are worried about erosion, mulch the seed bed with a thin layer of straw or peat moss. Mulch also helps to retain moisture.
6. Water daily with a fine mist to keep soil moist. On warm or windy days, it may be necessary to water 2 to 3 times.
7. After seed has germinated, reduce watering frequency, but water heavier to a greater soil depth. This will help encourage deeper root growth.
8. Mow grass to a height of 2 inches as soon as it reaches a 2 ½-3 inch height. Keep your mower blades sharp to avoid damaging tender young seedlings.
9. Wait until after the third mowing to apply any herbicides for weed control. Make sure to read the bottle of the herbicide to make sure that it is safe on a newly seeded area.

Tips for successful lawn care:

- *Keep your mower blade sharp (dull blades cause the top of the blade to brown)
- *Rake your lawn in the spring before fertilizing (lightly!)
- *Seed your lawn in the early spring or from August 15 to September 15
- *Alternate mowing pattern
- *Mow your lawn at 1 1/2" to 2" height in the spring and fall, 2 1/2" to 3" in the summer
- *Add soil sulphur to your lawn to help balance the pH in the soil, this will help keep the deep green color in your lawn longer
- *The best time to aerify your lawn would be in the fall, you can also aerify in the spring but then you bring all of the "weed seeds" up to the top of the soil
- *Gypsum is used on dog "urine" spots- limestone is used under trees that need more acidity