



## **CARING FOR YOUR NEW LAWN**

To help you maintain and enjoy a healthy lawn, we are providing you with some care information which holds true whether your lawn is newly seeded or newly installed sod.

### **WATERING:**

1. Never allow the soil to dry out after seeding or laying sod for a new lawn.
2. Avoid watering in the evening: water will not evaporate as quickly and may cause disease problems. Early morning and mid afternoon are the preferred times. During hot and dry weather watering twice a day will be necessary.
3. Overhead watering with a lawn sprinkler is the most beneficial for large areas. Be sure enough water is supplied to wet the soil thoroughly.
4. If the seeded area dries out completely, the grass seed, sprouted or not, will die.
5. Do not over-water. Over-watering to the point of run-off will cause the seed to puddle up in the low spots, creating an uneven and spotty lawn.

### **MOWING:**

1. Wait until the new grass is an even 3 - 3 ½" high before the first mowing.
2. Set the mower to the highest setting, 2 ½ -3", and be sure the blade is sharp.
3. Use a walk-behind power mower that is not 'self propelled' (rather than a riding mower) to prevent tearing up the newly established lawn.
4. A bagger should be used on your mower the first 2 or 3 cuts, so the grass clippings do not pile up and smother the new grass.
5. For the first season, keep the grass cut to 2 – 3 inches high. Ideally, mowing more often and taking off 1/3 of the height at each mowing is preferable to letting it get very tall and then cutting it very short.

### **FERTILIZING AND WEED CONTROL:**

1. Never use a *weed killer*, or a *weed & feed* product for the first season of a newly seeded lawn.
2. After a month, feed your new lawn with a second application of fertilizer such as slow-release, organic *Turf Tone*, to encourage root growth. Do not apply fertilizer if the weather is hot and dry or if other factors are stressing the lawn. *Timing is important, but weather and soil conditions are more vital.* April/May and late August into September are generally the cooler, more ideal times for fertilizing.

3. Be sure to read and follow application directions carefully and to set the fertilizer spreader at the correct setting. Tender new grasses can be burned by too heavy an application. Using organic lawn fertilizer rather than chemical fertilizers will minimize risk of burning.

### **FERTILIZER & WEED CONTROL SUGGESTIONS FOR AN ESTABLISHED LAWN**

At Mettowee Mill Nursery, we suggest a lawn feeding program to keep your lawn healthy and vigorous, and thus lessen the chances of serious disease or pest damage. Please feel free to call us with any questions. Telephone: 802-325-3007

Following these simple procedures will help keep your lawn in top condition for years of continued enjoyment. Please feel free to call us with any questions. 802-325-3007. Thanks for choosing Mettowee Mill Garden Center & Landscaping for your landscaping and gardening needs.