

## Spring and Early Summer Care for Your Newly Seeded Lawn

- 1) Keep the surface of the soil moist with a light watering (avoiding puddles) when daytime high temperatures are 65 degrees F and above. If the daily high temperatures are less than 65 degrees F, turfgrass seed will not germinate.
- 2) Water ONLY between 5:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Evening/Night watering has a tendency to promote disease, which will quickly kill seedlings. A clear, hot and windy day may require watering every hour in order to keep the soil moist. Natural rain alone is not enough water to activate seed germination. It will only reduce the number of times you need to water.
- 3) Fertilize the area 3 to 4 weeks after germination begins (ONLY if high temperatures are below 80 degrees F). Use a fertilizer labeled specifically for turfgrass lawns. Apply according to the instructions and continue to water. All seeds do not germinate at the same time. Your area has been seeded with a mixture that has multiple species of turf grasses that vary significantly in germination times.
- 4) Mow seedlings and weeds when they reach 3 to 4 inches in height. Yes, you will get weeds, they are unavoidable. Mowing will significantly reduce your population of weeds over time. You can apply weed control products when grass reaches 3 to 4 months in maturity. DO NOT apply weed control when temperatures are above 80 degree F, or you may burn and injure the turfgrass. September and October are the optimum months to apply weed control products.
- 5) New turfgrass lawns require 1 to 2 years to fully mature. BE PATIENT. If seed did not germinate in the late Fall or Summer, it may lay dormant, waiting for the proper conditions to germinate (65 to 80 degrees F). Be ready to water when that occurs.

