



DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND MUNICIPAL WORKS
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SOD CARE NOTICE

TENDER NO.	20-T18
WORK TO BE COMPLETED	SOD RESTORATION

To Resident/Owner:

A construction project has recently taken place on your street, resulting in the need for new sod to be installed on your property. For the first eight (8) weeks (60 days) after the sod is installed, the Contractor will water the sod on the following schedule:

- Week 1** – Daily
- Week 2 and 3** – Every Second Day
- Week 4 to 8** – Weekly

After the 60 day maintenance period is completed by the Contractor and the sod is accepted by the City, maintenance and care of the new sod becomes the sole responsibility of the Owner/Tenant.

For projects where sod is placed after October 31st, the watering schedule listed above and acceptance of the sod will take place the following spring, 60 days after the start of the growing season. At which point maintenance and care of the new sod becomes the sole responsibility of the Owner/Tenant.

In order for the new sod to thrive on your property the following is recommended:

- 1) Foot Traffic** - Avoid stepping on the newly laid sod for the first two (2) weeks after it is installed and keep foot traffic light for the first month. The roots of your new sod are being established during this period and can be effected by too much weight being placed on them.

- 2) **Watering** – Newly installed sod requires regular watering. In addition to the watering provided by the Contractor, it is recommend that you water the sod for five (5) to ten (10) minutes, two (2) to three (3) times a day, for the first two (2) weeks. Enough water should be provided to thoroughly soak the first two (2) inches of soil. After this point you can decrease the amount of watering to once a day, ensuring the top quarter inch of the soil is thoroughly soaked. After three (3) weeks watering can generally be reduced to every other day, then after roughly a month you can begin watering the sod once a week, as you would for an established lawn. Watering sod in the morning or evening allows for greater moisture absorption.

- 3) **Mowing** – You should not mow your sod for the first two (2) weeks or until it is 3.5 to 4 inches tall. Ensure your mower blades are sharp and avoid cutting it too short. Generally a maximum of 1/3 of the grass blade height should be removed when mowing. Avoid cutting the grass when it is wet.

- 4) **Weed Removal** – Starting 14 days after the sod is installed; any weeds should be manually removed from the sod before mowing to stop them from spreading. It is recommended to manually remove weeds from the sod each time prior to mowing. Sod has shallow roots, regular weed removal is important to stop weeds from spreading throughout the sod.

- 5) **Fertilization** – The spring following the placement of sod, the Contractor shall apply an additional application of fertilizer and an overseeing application. After this point, fertilization and seeding of the sod becomes the sole responsibility of the tenant/owner.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the individuals listed below.

Thank you.

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