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PLANT CARE:

KEEPING THEM HEALTHY

Tips to maintaining new or transplanted plants, grasses, perennials, trees, and more!



NEWLY PLANTED SOD

New sod needs to be thoroughly watered right after it's laid. Pay special attention to edges and areas along walks and driveways as sod can dry out more quickly. If it's a large area, put some water on all "hard-to-reach spots" before going back to soak it. At least 1/2" of water should be applied to ALL sodded areas. **NO MOWING/WALKING ON NEWLY LAID SOD SHOULD OCCUR DURING THE 2-3 WEEK "ROOT-ESTABLISHING" PERIOD**".

After initially soaking the sod, it will need to be watered a minimum 1-2 times per day or more depending on current weather conditions for the first 10-14 days. Hot, windy weather requires more water than cool, calm weather. Although natural rain is best, a minimum of 1/2" of rainfall is needed in order to be sufficient.

After about 2-3 weeks, sod should start to "root in". To test this, roll back a small piece. It should have some resistance & the presence of white roots will show underneath. Watering can be cut back to once a day, then every other day, etc., until sod keeps its green color.

***TIP: BE CAREFUL WALKING ON SOD/GRASS AREAS AFTER THOROUGHLY WATERING AS IT MAY BECOME TOO SOFT TO WALK ON.**

NEWLY SEEDED LAWNS

The key to successfully germinating grass seed is to keep it consistently moist until it can germinate. Different types of seed take different lengths of time to sprout. For example: Kentucky Bluegrass takes about 10-14 days. Ryegrass and Fescues can take 5-7 days when soil temperatures are above 60-65 degrees. In cooler weather, it will take longer.

To achieve proper moisture level, assuming the seed has been incorporated into the soil, water thoroughly the first time, then follow with light watering as often as necessary to keep it moist. Moisture levels can vary due to weather conditions. A hot, sunny location with windy conditions will require watering several times a day. Shady, protected areas may only need once-a-day watering. Roots will be fragile so delay mowing by 3 weeks.

After grass seed has completely germinated, watering should taper off in frequency. However, be more thorough until watering is done once a week.

