



CARING FOR YOUR NEW LAWN

Mattamy Homes lays down high-quality sod (i.e. grass) on your lot, but that is only the first step. After that, it is up to you to establish a luxurious green lawn on your property. Regular care and maintenance are essential, especially during the first 4 to 6 weeks after planting.

PLEASE NOTE

After initial installation, especially during warm weather, it is not uncommon for your sod to experience “shock” and go dormant. It will appear as though the grass has turned yellow and died—just as it looks in the winter. In most cases, sod will recover if properly maintained by following these steps ▼



TO GIVE YOUR NEW LAWN ITS BEST CHANCE JUST FOLLOW THESE STEPS

- On the day of installation, **your new sod must be watered as soon as possible**. We will provide written notice shortly before laying your sod. If no one will be home on that day, please leave your hoses and sprinklers accessible for our sodding contractor. Please ensure your exterior taps are in working order. You may have to turn on the valve in the basement to allow water to the hose bib.
- When the sod is first laid, it should be watered well, within 24 hours of installation. After an initial “soaking” period, **your lawn should be watered for about 2 hours a day** in the morning or evening for approximately one week, then every other day after that. (See the Watering Calendar on next page.)
- Water the lawn generously, so that water penetrates to the roots. Shallow watering creates a shallow root system and makes the lawn susceptible to burning. But please avoid over-watering your lawn because saturation of sod can be just as deadly as lack of water.
- **Avoid watering in hot sun**—it is better to wait until the early evening or early morning.
- If daytime temperatures are above 25 degrees Celsius, the sod should be watered every day.
- **Avoid walking on freshly laid sod**. The topsoil underneath is soft from watering and footprints could damage the sod. During the first month, we recommend that you minimize the use of sodded areas, especially drainage related areas such as side swales, to prevent ponding caused by footprints, etc. Any “lumpy” areas that may develop can usually be evened out by using a lawn roller, which we recommend doing after one growing season.
- Your lawn should be cut initially 2 to 3 weeks after being laid. Take care not to cut it too short, as that increases the risk of your lawn burning.
- Your sod was fertilized at the sod farm prior to installation. Therefore, no fertilizer should be applied for at least one year. After that, we recommend that you fertilize your lawn once every spring and again in the fall.



SOD WATERING CALENDAR

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7
WEEK 1							
WEEK 2							
WEEK 3							

WATER GAUGE TIPS

- To gauge watering, simply place an empty can about 6' away from sprinkler. When there is an inch of water in the can, it is time to move the sprinkler to the next area.
- Reflected heat along buildings dries sod quickly, be sure to water such areas more often.
- Check wind pattern to be sure desired area is, in fact, being watered.

MOWING TIPS

- Your new sod generally needs mowing 2-3 weeks after installation.
- The basic mowing rule is never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade during a single mowing.
- Set your mower at a cutting height of approximately 3 1/2"
- For best appearance be sure to keep your mower blades sharp.

TRAFFIC CAUTION

- Use your new sodded lawn sparingly until good root establishment has taken place, approximately 2-3 weeks.
- Avoid concentrated play activities, dog traffic or similar rough usage until 4 weeks have passed.
- After one growing season, we recommend that you have your lawn "rolled" to even out any lumpy sections that may have developed.