



# Care guide for shrubs, trees & new sod.



[www.countryclublawncare.com](http://www.countryclublawncare.com)

## Shrubs/Trees

### *Watering Instructions:*

1. Shrubs must be watered with 1-2 gallons of water every day for the first week. Trees must be watered with 5-10 gallons of water every day for the first week.
2. After the first week, we recommend that you water once a week while the temperature is below 80 degrees and 2-3 times a week if the temperature is above 80 degrees for the rest of the year. If you are planting late in the fall, you will need to follow this until the ground is frozen and into the next spring.

### *Tips:*

Large trees and shrubs may need higher amounts of water throughout the year. The bigger the plant, the more transplant shock you can expect. One way to measure the amount of water is to drill a couple of holes in the bottom of a 5 gallon bucket and place it on alternating sides of the plant. Fill it with water once in the morning and again in the evening. Another way to monitor the amount of water is to turn your hose on a slow stream and time how long it takes to fill a one gallon milk jug. Then, multiply that by 10 and that will tell you how long to let your hose run on the plant. Lawn irrigation systems only water the first inches and DO NOT provide the deep watering that is needed. You may skip a watering if we received 1" of rain. Remove the tree wrap on your tree during the spring/summer months and re-use it in the fall/winter months to protect from frost crack and deer rub.

## Newly Sodded Lawn

Immediate watering of your new sod is required. We will water the sod as it is being installed. As we complete our work, watering must continue. If you have hoses, sprinklers, and timers, we will be happy to assist you with setting these up.

### *Watering Instructions:*

- Begin watering immediately. The sod must be wet and the soil under the sod must be saturated.
- Water daily. During the the first 3-4 weeks water at least 2 times per day (hot dry weather could require watering 3-4 times per day).
- Water long enough to provide 1/4" of water. The best way to measure this is by placing a few cans (tuna or vegetable) in your yard.
- After 7-10 days, lightly tug up a corner of a roll of sod. If there is resistance the sod has begun latching down.
- After approximately 3 weeks, water every day or every other day depending on heat, drought and wind. Provide 1/2" of water per time. Your lawn will develop a stronger root system with less frequent but deeper watering.
- Hot, dry, and windy conditions will require additional watering.

### *Mowing Instructions:*

- After about two weeks pull up a few more spots of sod. If the sod is latched down and about 3-4" high, then it is ready to be mowed.
- If sod is staked, drive stakes into ground or break them off prior to mowing.
- Use caution while mowing as not to scalp the lawn. It is best not to remove more than 1/3 of the lawn's height.
- After mowing 3-4 times, use a fertilizer specifically for newly established lawns.

# Care for New Seed Lawn

	<b>WATER</b>	<b>MOWING</b>	<b>SUPPLEMENTAL FERTILIZER</b>	<b>OTHER APPLICATION</b>	<b>OTHER CULTURAL PRACTICE</b>
<b>Prohibit all traffic on the lawn until a solid stand of grass has developed (three weeks or more) after which do not play or use heavily until after six weeks of growth or three lawn mowings.</b>					
<b>0-7 DAYS</b>	Frequent, light	No	No	No	No
<b>8-14 DAYS</b>	Frequent, light	No	No	No	No
<b>15-21 days</b>	Frequent, light	<b>First Cut</b> (when plant reaches second leaf stage)	<b>Fertilize</b> at rate of 3/4 lb. slow release nitrogen per 1,000 square feet	No	No
<b>22-28 days</b>	Frequent, light	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	No	No	No
<b>4-6 weeks</b>	Frequent, longer periods	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	No	No	No
<b>7-10 weeks</b>	Less frequent, longer periods	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	Next regular application	First <b>pesticide</b> application	No
<b>3 months</b>	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"			No
<b>6 months</b>	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"			<b>Aerate</b>
<b>1 year</b>	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"			<b>Dethatch/Verti-cut</b>
<b>NOTES</b>	Frequent, light watering, at least twice a day will not only keep the top 1/2" of soil moist, but will also help spur germination. As seedlings begin to emerge, the intervals between watering can be lengthened.	It is highly recommended not to water the lawn the day or two preceding the first mowing. Continue watering cycle after first cut. Make sure the mower blade is sharp before commencing; a dull blade can uproot seedlings.	Apply fertilizer at half the normal rate in shady lawn areas.	Put off making chemical weed control applications for as long as possible. Most herbicides can be toxic to young seedlings.  Use pesticides sparingly and only as needed.	Aerating at least once per year is good, twice per year is preferable.  Verti-cutting is necessary in sunnier lawn areas and may not be necessary in shady lawn areas.