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Quick Plant Tips for New Lawns & Trees, Shrubs, and Perennials

LAWN

- Seed Germination: Newly seeded areas need to be moist every day for **about** 2 weeks. Water twice: once in morning and once in **early** afternoon for approx. 30 – 60 minutes each time (Hot, dry periods may require watering more often)-Do Not water late in day when evening temps are 60+ degrees.
 - Sod: Water for 1 hour every other day for 2 weeks (Hot, dry periods may require daily watering)
- Seed Deep Root Watering: After approximately 2 weeks (or grass emergence) water the lawn areas twice a week at 45 minutes each time. Follow this schedule for two to three weeks (Hot, dry periods will require more water).
 - Sod: Water twice a week for 1 hour. Continue for 2 weeks.
- After established (seeded and sodded): Continue to water twice per week for 1 hour for the rest of the first year.
- This is merely a general guideline, if you have been following the schedule but the lawn is still dry, or seems too wet, adjust the amount of water for your situation.
- Fertilizing: After first mowing, apply 1.5 pounds of Scotts Turf Builder (29-3-4) (or equivalent) per 1000 square feet of lawn area. Apply in side to side pattern. Immediately, apply another 1.5 pounds per 1000 square feet in up and down pattern. **DO NOT OVER APPLY**. (The 15.72 lb. bag should cover about 10,500 square feet per application). For a healthy lawn fertilize 4 times annually (1-April/May, 2-June, 3-Aug /Sept., and 4-Oct./Nov.). Eliminate the June fertilization in shady lawns.
- Mowing: First mowing should be performed when seedlings have reached 4” in height. Mow to a height of 3”.
- Do not mow when the lawn is wet.
- Mow with a sharp blade.
- Keep lawn height between 3” – 3 ½” with 4-7 day mowing cycles. Use 1/3 rule (only mow 1/3 off of total grass height). Mowing excessive amounts off of grass causes thatch build-up causing problems down the road.
- Visit our web-site for links to additional information to achieve a healthy beautiful lawn.

TREES, SHRUBS, and PERENNIALS

- Watering:
 - Check the Soil of plants with your finger. Trees and Shrubs should be checked weekly. Perennials should be checked every 3 days. Stick your finger in the soil that came from the nursery, if its wet /slimy do not water.
 - Allow the plants to dry out between waterings.
 - Pay attention: Small plants dry out fast, big plants take longer (if properly watered).
 - Small shrubs or Perennials: When watering a dry plant, do not use a lawn sprinkler, hand-water each plant with a watering wand. This insures adequate moisture for all new plants. Count to 30 and move on to the next plant.
 - Large trees and shrubs that have large root balls set the hose on top of the root ball near the trunk. Set the hose to a **trickle** and allow to water for a 1 to 1½ hours, this provides deep watering that soaks into the entire root ball.
 - Continue this watering technique for the entire first year after planting.
 - Late Fall: Continue providing water until the ground is frozen (especially for evergreens).
- Fertilizer: Trees, Shrubs, and perennials will not require fertilizer in the first year of maintenance. A slow release granular fertilizer, or fertilizer spike(s) is suggested once a year for subsequent years.
- Pruning: Trees and shrubs will not require pruning in the first year. Consult a professional prior to pruning in subsequent years. Perennials can be cut back in the late fall or early spring.
- Mulching: Apply 3-4” of mulch at planting. Trees located in lawn areas should have at least a 3-4’ radius mulch ring. 1” of mulch is suggested for yearly top-dressing. **DO NOT** allow mulch to touch the trunk of trees or shrubs.
- Visit our web-site for links to additional information for long-term plant care.

Not sure you have the time or ability to care for your new landscape, call us. We provide landscape maintenance services too!

Please call us if you have any questions or concerns regarding care for your new landscape. (262) 537-2111