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## **GET YOUR LAWN AND PLANTINGS OFF TO A GOOD START**

Your new lawn or landscape has been installed. What next?

**Water is probably the most important requirement for a lawn and landscape. This is a must for all new installations. The following is a list of recommendations for newly planted plants:**

Be careful, symptoms for over watering and under watering can look very similar.

**TREES:** Water immediately after planting. All trees should receive a slow trickle of water with an open ended hose. Take an open ended hose and place at the base of the trunk, slightly turn on water to allow for a slow trickle of water (little or no run-off) for 1-2 hours, at least once per week.

In times of extreme heat or drought, 2-3 times a week will be necessary.

Another option for watering trees is grow bags. These should be watered daily. Rain should not be considered as adequate watering.

**LARGE SHRUBS:** Water immediately after planting. They can be watered the same as trees, except 1/2 to 1 hour at a time. The same applies for dry conditions. You can also hand water using a soft spray watering wand with moderate pressure. When using this method a thorough soaking can be achieved in 2-3 minutes per shrub.

**SMALL SHRUBS:** Water immediately after planting. They should be watered by hand for 30-40 second each, every 3-4 days. Again using a soft spray watering wand with moderate pressure watering the plant at its base, and increase watering during times of drought.

**PERENNIALS AND GROUNDCOVERS:** Water immediately after planting. Water every other day for 15-30 seconds each at a slow trickle. Again, water using a soft spray watering wand with moderate pressure at the plant base. Daily watering may be needed during high temperature and times of drought. Use caution some perennials do not tolerate wet soil.

**NEW GRASS SEED:** Water immediately after planting. Using a sprinkler gently water daily until seed sprouts (Several times daily is recommended). This keeps the seed bed damp and will encourage proper seed development. Rain can help but should not be considered adequate at this phase. Once the seed begins to establish and mature watering intervals can be lengthened and the amount applied at any one time increased. Provide a minimum of 1” of water weekly and increase watering during times of drought. Watering at night is not recommended.

**SOD:** Water immediately after planting. Soak generously daily for the first two weeks, and continue to do so in times of drought. Sod is well watered if, when lifted, root area underneath is thoroughly wet and not crumbly. Pay special attention to the edges and be aware of grey spots. These are spots that have wilted because they are not receiving enough water. Within 10 days your sod should have many roots emerging; If not check watering. After establishment, provide a minimum of 1” of water weekly and increase watering during times of drought. Watering at night is not recommended.

### **FIRST YEAR PLANTS**

Water twice weekly using an open ended hose or using a soft spray watering wand with moderate pressure, using the above guidelines. In extreme temperature and drought conditions, water every second day.

### **ESTABLISHED PLANTS ( IN GROUND 2 OR MORE YEARS)**

During the hot and dry mid summer months established plants would benefit from a twice weekly watering. Again used guide above

Please keep in mind that the instructions above are just a guide. Conditions vary from site to site, and over-watering is just as harmful as under-watering. A good way to check if plants need water is to stick your finger slightly below the soil level. If soil is cool and moist, then don't water (but check again the next day). If soil is dry and crumbly, the plants probably need water. If you think your plants are showing signs of stress, then there is a good chance you should change the amount you are watering.

*Don't wait until it's too late to call us with any questions you may have regarding watering and the proper care of your new plantings.*