

—A QUICK GUIDE TO YOUR NEW LAWN—

LAWN CARE TIPS

WELCOME HOME

Congratulations on the purchase of your new home! We at Truman take pride in our work and the products that we use in all our projects.

Due to the perishable nature of any sod we must stress the importance of proper maintenance of your lawn.

To ensure that your sod and trees look wonderful for years to come, ***please ensure you are doing the following:***

- Proper watering must be applied to the sod – refer to the following page on How to Care for Sodded Lawns.
- Ensure fresh sod is not trampled on or traffic of any kind (*Animals, Pedestrians, and Automobiles etc.*)
- Sod is not burned by chemical, pesticide, fertilizer, or reflected sunlight from a home foundation or concrete.
- Pets should not be allowed to soil on the lawn
- Minimal settlement of dirt/top soil is expected (*up to 10 inches*). It is the **homeowner's responsibility** to ensure if settlement occurs after the yard has been sodded the affected areas are corrected immediately so that water is properly draining away from your home and is not pooling against the foundation, as there is no warranty against settlement.

HOW TO CARE FOR SODDED LAWNS

It is the responsibility of the homeowner to provide care and maintenance of newly sodded lawns.

Please follow the guidelines below. With proper care, you will have a velvety carpet of grass.

- For the first 10 days, water turf frequently (*twice daily, mornings and evenings*) to keep the sod thoroughly soaked. Run sprinklers at least 2-3 hours per spot so that water can penetrate the sod and get to the soil below. Watering may need to be increased on very hot and dry days. Water less on steep slopes to prevent erosion.
- After soaking the sod for the first time, the turf will be very soft. Avoid walking on sod when fully soaked. We recommend setting your sprinklers so that you can pull them to the next spot with the hose and not have to walk on the turf.
- The edges of the turf including areas along the driveway, patio, sidewalks and the house are most likely to dry out first. Make sure to water heavily in these areas.
- If pieces of sod begin to shrink and the seams open up, that means the turf is drying out and watering needs to be increased. If turf looks grey and doesn't spring back up when stepped on, it is wilting and needs additional water.
- Important note for customers with new trees/shrubs/perennials: New plant stock does not require as much watering as new sod. Be careful not to water so heavily and frequently that the new plants stay waterlogged. This is especially true for homeowners with an in-ground irrigation system. We've seen many plants drowned and killed by too much water.
- A week to 14 days minimum needs to pass before placing a lawn mower on the new turf for the first time. Stop watering before cutting so that the turf can become firm enough to walk on. The best way to determine mowing times is through grass height. **In general, 3- or 4-inches in height means the turf is ready for mowing.**
- The continued success of your lawn depends on regular cuttings (*about once a week*), never shorter than 2-inches. Generally after the first cutting, two thorough soakings every week is adequate except in very hot, dry weather when additional watering will be necessary.

