



AUSTIN FARMS SODDING, INC.

IMPORTANT!!!

**AFTER SOD HAS BEEN INSTALLED, BEGIN WATERING IMMEDIATELY!
DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT DAY!**

Proper watering is essential to the establishment of your new sod. During the first week, keep the sod and soil beneath completely soaked — it is almost impossible to overwater during this period. As a general guide, water 3 times a day during this critical first week. Watering times should be approximately 15-25 minutes. These numbers may need to be increased during hot weather. If water starts to puddle, cut back a bit on watering time. During the second week, reduce watering to 1-2 times per day, gradually allowing the soil to firm. This will make it possible for you to mow for the first time toward the end of the second week. After three weeks, your sod should be established and you may cut back to a normal watering routine for your location.

Frequency and length of watering will depend on how warm and windy it is, and how rapidly the lawn dries out following each watering. Remember, the goal during the first week is to keep the sod and the soil beneath moist at all times.

AFTER YOUR SOD IS INSTALLED

- ▶ *We cannot overstress: Follow the prescribed watering program!*
- ▶ Stay off your new sod for at least 14 days.
- ▶ Mow after two weeks with your mower set at the highest cutting height to reduce scalping. Never mow off more than 1/3 of the height of the grass.
- ▶ Fertilize your new sod 3 weeks after the installation and every 6 weeks thereafter.
- ▶ Control your pets. Urine spots and footprinting on soft, soggy sod may cause permanent problems.

Warranty

SOD DOES NOT HAVE A WARRANTY!

- When your sod was installed it was green.
- It is the homeowner's responsibility to water and treat the sod appropriately.
- Remember to follow these watering instructions and consult your lawn care company for further instructions and recommendations for annual grub testing, aeration and verticutting.
- Whenever you have questions, please call us at
(816)246-4489

TROUBLESHOOTING HINTS

Bluish-gray areas appearing in the lawn — These are spots which have wilted because they are not getting as much water as the adjacent areas. Soak with a garden hose until you can adjust your sprinkler system for better coverage (adding an additional head, etc.)

Sod not rooting — Within 10 days, your sod should have many roots emerging. If not, check your watering. **NOTE:** Sod in shade will root very slowly, if at all. Most turfgrass sods require 4-5 hours of full sun or an entire day of filtered light to successfully root and become established. Sodding in shady areas is not recommended.

Brown spots — These can be caused by pets, dry spots, areas that are not rooting, or possibly fungus. About 95% of the time, brown spots are due to lack of water. Check by pushing a screwdriver into the ground where the sod is green and then into the brown spot. If it is harder to push into the brown spot, you will know it is simply dry.

Mushrooms — Don't worry about them. When you cut back on the watering, they'll go away.

Various gaps — These are normally caused by lack of watering. Sod, when not properly watered, will shrink and cause gaps! *If you catch it in time and water immediately, it should expand back.*

THANK YOU FOR CHOOSING AUSTIN FARMS SODDING, INC.