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## Watering Instructions for Your Lawn

- Water is the <u>MOST</u> important ingredient to making newly planted grass seed germinate, grow and remain sustainable. Many lawn renovations and over seedings will fail if not properly irrigated.
- DAILY watering is HIGHLY recommended for at least 14-21 days after planting. If possible, multiple watering times per day is encouraged (morning and evening).
- Keep the soil surface moist without allowing puddles to form.
- 1-2 hours of watering time per section of lawn is generally sufficient with an average sprinkler and hose. A battery-operated timer is a helpful tool to schedule watering times. Either oscillating or impact sprinklers are effective.
- Germination generally occurs 10-14 days after irrigation has begun. (Depends on air and soil temperatures)
- After germination occurs, continue to water daily because the newly germinated seedlings are especially vulnerable to dry conditions.
- After 14 days, continue to water the lawn 2 or more times per week. This is especially important if temperatures remain high (70°+), and rainfall is lacking.
- Cooler air temperatures and cloudy skies will help to conserve soil moisture, therefore reducing the requirement for additional irrigation.
- Keep foot traffic to a minimum for the first couple weeks after seeding.
- Keep the lawn free of leaves and debris. When necessary, leaves and debris should be blown from the lawn. Do not rake until after the new grass is well established. Raking can displace or uproot newly germinated seeds if done too aggressively.
- Weed control sprays will not be able to be done until after the new grass has germinated and been mowed at least 2-3 times. Until then, weed control will have to be limited to physical removal.
- > For lawns that have been Aerated and Over Seeded:
  - Delay mowing until after the lawn has been watered at least 2 times. Then resume normal mowing schedule. Keep mowing heights high (3" -4" tall)
  - Seed germination is NOT guaranteed.