

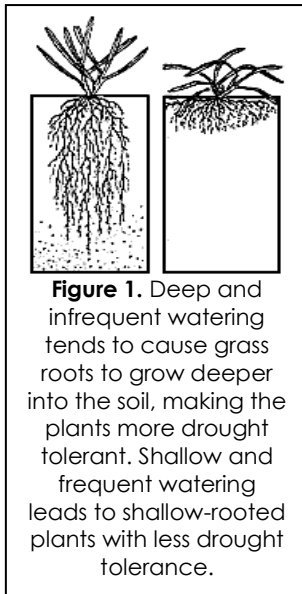


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Turf Watering Guidelines

Thank you for choosing Hittle Landscaping to install your new lawn. The instructions below should be followed to ensure a well established turf. Please note that each of the different turf options require a different type of care. Please read the following recommendations for the lawn type that applies to you. Please note that these are guidelines. Each type of lawn installation requires some degree of hands on care by the homeowner.

General Notes:



- Water early in the morning. This helps provide water to the plant at the start of its natural growing cycle. Do not water before night fall. This will keep the leaf blades wet and may lead to disease.
- Different seasons require different watering techniques. Cooler temperatures in the spring and fall will need less watering than hot and humid summers.
- Frequently check for soil moisture. Using a tool (like a screw driver) you should be able to push the sharp end in to the soil about 3-4". If this is difficult you may need more water.
- Keep the soil moist for the first few weeks of watering. After that a long, soaking watering should be applied.
- Limit traffic on all turf areas for the first 4-5 weeks.
- Slight wilting, color change to a grayish or blue-green shade, and/or foot-printing (when grass does not rebound once you have walked on it) are all signs water is needed.

Hydroseed:

Installing hydroseed to establish turf is a quick and cost effective application. Our hydroseed mixture contains all ingredients necessary to establish turf. These include the seed itself, starter fertilizer and hydro-mulch. Follow the watering timeline below combined with a regular fertilizer program to provide the best foundation for a healthy lawn.

Week 1-3: Watering should take place as soon as the hydroseed has been applied. You should set your watering schedule to water the turf 3-5 times a day for 8-10 minutes. This allows the soil to soak up water 3-4" deep without any washing or run off.

Week 3-6: The seed should begin to germinate by this time period. Once it has, cut back the watering to 1-2 times a day for 20-30 minutes. Hotter temperatures may require additional watering. At this time the starter fertilizer applied during installation has worn off, so apply more fertilizer and begin a routine fertilizer program to keep your lawn looking its best. Once grass has reached 3"+, it is safe to begin a regular mowing regimen.

Week 7+: Water should be applied to the turf area at a rate of 1" per week. This should be done in 2-3 day increments for 25-30 minutes per application. For the best results, continue a fertilizer and weed-control program, and inspect for disease and pests during mowings.

Turf Watering Instructions

Seed and Straw:

After the lawn area has been prepared the seed and fertilizer are manually spread using a push spreader. Both are applied in a crisscross pattern over the soil to ensure proper coverage. The area is then covered with a uniform layer of straw. This is done either by hand or with a mechanical straw blower. Using straw over the seed helps keep the soil cool and doesn't allow moisture to evaporate as quickly, if it was left uncovered. Follow the watering timeline below combined with a regular fertilizer program to provide the best foundation for a healthy lawn.

Week 1-3 : Water the seed 2-3 times daily for 15-20 minutes per application. Early morning and late afternoon are the best times to water.

Week 3-6 : Once germination has occurred you should alter the frequency and duration of your watering. Cut watering down to once daily but for a longer amount of time. Water each area 25-30 minutes. This should be done in the morning so the turf can absorb the water through the day. At this time the starter fertilizer applied during installation has worn off, so apply more fertilizer and begin a routine fertilizer program to keep your lawn looking its best.

Week 7+: Begin to wean the grass off of frequent watering. Water every other day for the same duration as above. After a few mowings apply 1" of water to the turf every week. This can be achieved by watering 2-3 times a week. For the best results, continue a fertilizer and weed-control program, and inspect for disease and pests during mowings.

Sod:

Using sod is the best way to achieve an "instant lawn." Sod is cut and shipped directly to our facility or your home the day of installation. Since the sod is cut, rolled and shipped in one day, it is very important to water as soon as the product is installed. Sod may dry out quickly. Continue to monitor the watering applications to ensure full coverage of your property. When installed and maintained properly you will have a dense, well established lawn that is resistant to weeds, pests and infestations.

Week 1-3 : After the sod has been laid thoroughly soak the entire area so the first 1/2" under the soil is wet. You can check this by pulling up a corner of one of the sod rolls and putting your finger into the soil. Starting on the second day, water 2-3 times daily for 15-20 minutes per application. The intention is to keep the sod consistently damp for the first few weeks.

Week 3-6 : Your sod should begin to root in at this time. At this stage you will want to water less frequently, for a longer duration, and begin your fertilizer program. Cut back the water to 1-2 times daily for 20-30 minutes.

Week 7+ : The sod is now well on its way to being established. Watering should consist of 2-3 applications weekly for 20-30 minutes giving the sod 1" of water. For the best results, continue a fertilizer and weed-control program, and inspect for disease and pests during mowings.

Vive Exterior Design can develop a routine maintenance program that will take care of your mowing, weed control, and fertilizer needs along with many other services. That way you can sit back, relax, and enjoy your new lawn!