



TOTAL LANDSCAPE SUPPLY SERVICES

ESTABLISHING A NEW LAWN BY SEEDING

- Best Time: Mid-spring and early fall (a good irrigation system will allow you to seed from spring to fall).
- Till the soil to a depth of 4 to 6 inches (10-15 cm). Rake, level, and add quality topsoil where needed. Lightly roll, if soil is very loose.
- Work in a starter fertilizer (high phosphorous) into top inch or two (follow directions for rate) then roll with a lightweight roller. Soil surface should be firm enough to walk on, without leaving deep trenches.
- Lightly rake soil so seed will fall in furrow made by rake teeth. Sow at a minimum rate of 1 lb. per 200 sq. ft. Divide seed in half. Sow in two directions for even distribution (half walking in one direction and the second half walking at right angles to the first section).
- Cover seed by raking lightly; grass seeds need to be covered only lightly with soil.
- Roll or tamp the area with the back of the rake, carefully, to press seeds into firm contact with the soil.
- The most critical step in obtaining good seed germination and subsequently a thick lawn, is keeping the seeded area moist until the seeds have germinated. Use a fine mist to avoid washing soil away. In dry weather, water may be needed several times per day, everyday, until germination is complete.
- By the end of the first six weeks, the watering schedule should be on a weekly basis with about 1 inch of water per application.
- When grass reaches the correct height (about 2 inches) begin mowing with a sharp mower. Try not to clip off more than one third of the grass blade at any one mowing. Leave short clippings on your lawn; remove long clippings to avoid smothering grass underneath.
- Follow with a sound fertilizer program to keep your lawn strong, healthy and help it keep ahead of the weeds (3 applications are recommended – spring, summer and fall).

Hold off on weed sprays until the second cutting of your new lawn.