



## *Grass Seed Installation*

Installing grass seed can be a much more inexpensive way to begin a beautiful lawn. The best time to seed your new lawn is in either the Spring or Fall. Fall is the ideal time since you won't have to worry about grassy weeds such as crabgrass.

There are three things you need in order to achieve the best results:

1. **Good quality seed.** Although top quality seed may cost more now, it most likely will save lots of time, frustration and money in the future.
2. **Well prepared soil.** Till the soil well before applying grass seed, but not too finely so that the surface dries too quickly and crusts out. Soil additives should also be applied before applying the seed.
3. **Keep the soil moist after planting.** After laying down your seed, simply use a large rake to cover the seed with about 1/8<sup>th</sup> inch of soil. Traditionally, straw is used to cover seed but can often bring unwanted weeds.

## *Grass Seed Aftercare*

1. In order for grass seed to germinate, it is essential to keep the seed moist and not let it dry out. This means misting the seed thoroughly with water, but not allowing it to drown in a puddle of water, at least once daily. During dry spells or extreme heat, you may have to mist more than once a day.
2. Top-dress the grass seed with straw and/or Penn Mulch (a fertilizing seed protector) at the time of seed application. Over time, these products will decompose, or will be mulched once the first mowing is completed.
3. Once germination occurs, decrease watering to 3-4 times per week. If the weather is exceptionally hot, you may need to water more frequently.
4. You may begin to mow your lawn once it has reached a height of approximately 5"- 6". Adjust your lawnmower's blade height so that it will cut 1/3 of the height of the grass (leaving your grass at a height of approximately 3"- 4" when mowing is complete). After mowing your new lawn twice, future mowing may be completed at the height that is most fit for your variety of grass.

**Disclaimer:** There is no guarantee or warranty on grass seed, whether you install it or we do. Routine upkeep is necessary for sustaining grass and preventing weeds; ask about our maintenance services.