

Where Great Gardens are Grown Everyday!



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Care Guide

Watering Plants: Watering is the most important factor in caring for your new planting, especially for the few months after installation. The best way to water is by hand, since this allows the best control over the amount of water each plant receives. On the average, a thorough weekly watering through the spring and autumn months should be sufficient. During the summer (June through September) particularly when rain is scarce, watering more often may be necessary. During a severe drought, you may have to water more frequently.

Please be very conscious of water reaching the planting from other sources. All rain-gutter down spouts must be re-directed to prevent over saturation of beds. Sprinkler systems should have a separate zone for the planting beds. TOO MUCH water to plant material can be as FATAL as too little.

When to Water: Water when your plants are dry, how often can vary depending on many factors. You do not need to water every day if you water thoroughly. Quick thunderstorms usually only saturate the soil for a few inches, so be prepared to water plants even after rains. To determine if you need to water, pull back the mulch and dig down 4-6" beside the root ball. Determine if the root ball is wet or dry. It is possible for the surrounding soil to be wet while the root ball of a newly planted tree or shrub is dry. If the root ball is dry, water thoroughly. The kind of soil you have affects how often you need to water. The faster your soil drains and dries out the more often you will have to water.

The weather and time of year also influence watering. When the weather is hot and dry in the summer, you may have to water frequently to maintain a healthy soil moisture level in newly planted root balls. Generally, trees will need watering thoroughly every seven to ten days until they are established in one to two years. Shrubs and small trees will need to be watered every three to five days. Plants with shallow roots, such as ground covers, annuals, and perennials will need watering more often. They will usually start to droop when they are in need of water. Site conditions will vary from place to place, so consult your Sargent's designer for specific instructions or call us at (651) 388-3847.

How to Water: You may use a sprinkler for ground covers, annuals, and perennials. In a bed or grouping of plants you may use a soaker hose. However you must check it periodically to be sure it has not clogged or crimped. Sprinklers will not work for trees and shrubs. To hand water; use a hose without an end nozzle. Place the hose next to the plant. Turn the water on to a slow run or trickle and let it run until the plant is wet to the depth of the root ball. Watering correctly can mean the difference in whether your plants live or die.

There is no guarantee on new seeding and sodding

No GUARANTEE: Due to the need for daily care, Sargent's Nursery does not guarantee sod after it has been installed in good condition by Sargent's.

Watering for Established Lawns

Lawns require more water per square foot than any other garden plant. In general a lawn needs to be watered if the annual rainfall is below 40 inches per year. Additionally in droughty summer periods, if it hasn't rained at least one inch within the past 7 to 10 days, you need to water your lawn. Some people make the mistake of applying frequent, light sprinklings. This does not benefit the lawn; rather it wastes water and encourages annual weeds.

Care Instructions for Newly Sodded Lawns

Watering Requirements: Water sod daily to a depth of approximately 3/4" - enough to get the subsoil wet. This may take a sprinkler 4-6 hours. Pick up a corner of the sod to test the moisture. If the subsoil is wet, then it is sufficiently watered. Continue watering for 2-3 weeks or until the sod becomes firmly rooted. Sod must stay evenly moist.

After the lawn is established, be sure that it receives the equivalent of 1" or more of rain/water each week.

Fertilizing: Initial fertilizing, use Starter Fertilizer.

No pre-emergent or broadleaf weed controls should be used until the lawn has matured.

Midsummer, apply Bonide's Weed and Feed fertilizer after the 6th or 7th time of mowing.

In the late Fall, apply Bonide's Fall Winterizer Lawn Food.

Next year, follow Bonide's Phase 1-4 Fertilizing program for optimal feeding and weed control.

Mowing: Let grass grow to at least 3" before mowing and cut no more than 1/3 of the height at a time.

Additionally, a sharp mower blade will make a big difference for the health and appearance of your lawn. Mow less in the heat of summer and discontinue mowing when fall temperatures are consistently below 50 degrees.

*If Moles are a problem in your lawn, apply Mole Max throughout growing season.

Newly Seeded Lawns in the Fall

Watering Requirements: Water newly seeded lawns twice a day for 15 – 20 minutes at a time until grass seed germinates. Gradually increase watering to soak the soil deeply and encourage deeper root growth.

-Water once a day for 2 weeks for 30 – 40 minutes.

-Continue watering until we have a hard freeze. It's important that the newly planted grass does not go into winter with dry soil.

-Grass will start actively growing in the spring and may need watering if we do not get adequate spring moisture. Continue to water through dry periods as your lawn is established. Keep in mind that deep watering will encourage deeper root growth and help the grass to better withstand drought and heat.

Fertilizing and Weed Control: Newly installed grass seed should be fertilized with *Greenview Starter Fertilizer for Newly Seeded Lawns with Crab Grass Preventer*. You will not need additional fertilizer this season.

Next Year Fertilizing:

-Before May 15th apply *Greenview Starter Fertilizer for Newly Seeded Lawns with Crab Grass Preventer*.

-By June 15th, follow with *Bonide Phase 2 Fertilizer* with broad leaf weed control once weeds are actively growing.

-July 15th and July 30th apply *Bonide Phase 1 Fertilizer* with crabgrass preventer.

-In September or early October apply *Bonide Phase 4 Fertilizer* for Winterizing.

If moles are a problem apply Molemax Mole Repellent during the growing season.

The following year follow the *Bonide Phase 4 Fertilizer Program*, which can include insect control if you choose. We can help you with any questions you have about the best products to use for your particular situation.

Newly Seeded Lawn Care Instructions

Watering:

First 2 weeks – water 3 times a day for 10 minutes.

Next 2 weeks – water 2 times a day (early am and late pm) for 15 minutes.

Summer watering – 2 times a week for ½ hour or equivalent of 1” of water

September watering – 1 time per week for 1 hour.

October watering – 1 time every 2 weeks for 1 hour.

Fertilizing:

-Initial fertilizing, use “Greenview Starter Fertilizer for Newly Seeded Lawns with Crab Grass Preventer”. No pre-emergent or broadleaf weed controls should be used until the lawn has matured.

-Midsummer, apply Bonide's Weed and Feed fertilizer after the 6th or 7th time of mowing.

If crab grass is the prevailing problem weed you may apply Bonides phase 1 fertilizer with crabgrass preventer towards the end of July.

-Fall, apply Bonide's Fall Winterizer Lawn Food.

-Next year, follow Bonide's Phase 1-4 Fertilizing program for optimal feeding and weed control.

Mowing:

Let grass grow to at least 3” before mowing and cut no more than 1/3 of the height at a time. Additionally, a **sharp mower blade** will make a big difference for the health and appearance of your lawn. Mow less in the heat of summer and discontinue mowing when fall temperatures are consistently below 50 degrees.

*If Moles are a problem in your lawn, apply Mole Max throughout growing season.

Lawn Mowing Tips: Let grass grow to at least 3” before mowing and cut no more than 1/3 of the height at a time. Additionally, a sharp mower blade will make a big difference for the health and appearance of your lawn. Mow less in the heat of summer and discontinue mowing when fall temperatures are consistently below 50 degrees.

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Deadheading Perennials or Annuals

Let's face it. Even the name is scary. But deadheading, despite the ominous sound, is nothing more than trimming off spent flowers, keeping plants tidy, and ensuring maximum bloom time. Nearly all flowering plants benefit from at least a little deadheading. When blooms start to fade, brown, curl, or otherwise look unattractive, that's the time to trim them off, allowing the other flowers to shine. This can be done by simply pinching the flowers off, or snipping with pruners.