

# Guidelines on watering new sod:

- Use a screwdriver or other sharp tool to see if ground is penetrable. Pull back a corner and push the screwdriver or sharp object in the soil. It should push in easily and have moisture along the first 6 inches, or more water should be applied.
- Corners and Edges are particularly vulnerable to drying out and are easily missed by many sprinklers. Areas near buildings also dry out faster. Make sure the entire lawn is receiving the same amount of water.
- To conserve water when runoff occurs, turn off the water and wait thirty minutes to an hour. For the next two weeks, keep the soil below the turf moist with daily or more frequent watering.
- As the roots of the turf begin to penetrate the soil, it will be difficult to pull back the corner to check underneath the sod.
- Water in the morning, anytime between 10 am and in the evening after 4 pm. These times are ideal because of lower temperatures; lower wind speeds and less water is lost thru evaporation.
- Infrequent and deep watering, is preferred over frequent and shallow watering. Roots will only grow as deep as their most frequent available water supply.
- Dormant turf still needs some water. Dormant sod still requires about ½" of water per week, winds and humidity levels can cause turf to be dry. Watering thru the winter can help the sod be healthier in the spring.

