



Seed

Maintenance

More information on lawn care is available through the University of Minnesota Extension Service. (www.extension.umn.edu)

This information is being provided to you by the City of St. Anthony Village.

This publication shall serve as a resource with respect to boulevard restoration associated with seasonal construction. Outlined within are the requirements for construction restoration, and a few lawn maintenance tips to assist property owners after construction.

Prior to completion of any construction project, the Contractor is responsible to restore the areas that have been disturbed as a result of construction. Final restoration is typically in the form of seed. The project's construction observer will inspect the restoration areas for compliance with the contract.

Individual property owners are responsible for providing the necessary maintenance to ensure growth of the seed. Below are some lawn care strategies that can assist property owners in maintaining their lawns to ensure seed growth.

- **Watering** – Any additional watering you can provide will only result in a healthier thicker lawn. The root system is not fully established in the first full growing season. Newly restored areas must be watered to ensure growth of the vegetation. Depending on weather conditions, seed may need to be watered every day.

- **Morning is the best time to water lawn areas...the earlier the better** – As the sun rises, so does the temperature. Heat steals the moisture from your lawn through evaporation. When you water early, more of the water is absorbed into the lawn, requiring less water usage.

- **Watering during the day can actually harm your lawn** – Scalding and burning occurs when hot sunlight hits the water droplets that cling to the lawn. The tiny droplets imitate a magnifying glass, which burns the lawn. At night, the cool, moist conditions create an ideal environment for lawn diseases to develop. Grass blades watered in the morning dry off quickly, making it harder for a disease habitat to flourish.

- **VERY IMPORTANT** – Please DO NOT MOW newly installed seed until the spring following the initial installation.

- **Weeds** – You will likely notice weeds growing in your newly seeded lawn during the spring following planting. Please continue to mow your lawn as you normally would throughout the spring as this will help knock down the weeds and allow the grass seed to grow and spread eventually choking out the weeds.

- **Maintain a healthy lawn** – For most lawn areas, mowing at a height of 3 - 4 inches is recommended. This slightly higher height screens out light to the soil surface, limiting the germination and establishment of weeds such as crabgrass that need light to germinate. A slightly higher cutting height also encourages deeper rooting, allowing moisture and nutrients from a larger soil volume to gather. This gives the grass plants a greater degree of stress tolerance. Avoid mowing during hot weather and never cut more than half the plant off at a time.

- **Lawn Aeration and Overseeding** - Optimal growing conditions for Minnesota are in late summer or early fall. Core aeration and overseeding is recommended following one complete growing season.

- **Seasonal Maintenance** – Seed and fertilize in the fall.