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**Village of Kimberly**

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**New Lawn Care and Maintenance**

As recommended by area landscape center.

Once your lawn has been installed the following steps are recommended to achieve and maintain a great lawn!

**Step 1:** Start watering your lawn immediately. The first watering should be about 1”, this would be roughly watering for an hour on each area. Then every day you should water a ½”, this would be roughly about a ½ hour on each area, depending on rain. The more consistently the lawn stays moist the quicker the seed will germinate.

TIP: Start at the outermost areas and work your way back to the house. Water for the entire growing season.

**Step 2:** As soon as a majority of the lawn is 2” start mowing. Keep the mower height between 2 and 3”. This stimulates root growth and helps to keep weeds down. Mow the yard regularly after mowing the first time. Regular mowing will aid in reducing and eliminating weeds.

**Do not use any weed killer or crabgrass preventer on a new lawn**.

**STEP 3: This is very important. 4 weeks after install, even if the lawn still looks dark green, fertilize the lawn. DO NOT USE ANY WEED KILLER OR CRABGRASS PREVENTER.** **Use a starter fertilizer, high in nitrogen and has micro elements. Example: 20-0-4+Fe**

**Step 4:** Continue fertilizing every 4-6 weeks with a starter fertilizer for the rest of the growing season.

**Step 5:** For the last mowing of the season set the mower height at 1 ½”. This helps to reduce or prevent vole damage.

**Step 6: The following season do not use a crab grass preventer.** Fertilize the lawn right away in spring with a starter fertilizer. Then you can fertilize 3-4 more times in the growing season, using a weed killer for your third fertilization application.

**Step 7:** Mow the lawn regularly at a 2-3” height.