** Spring Renovating and Overseeding Your Lawn**

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- Spring is the time to repair drought damaged lawns.

- Get your grass thick and healthy to prevent weeds from invading your lawn.

- With the abundant spring rains, now is the time to reseed the bare and thin spots in your lawn.

- Shady areas seeded in early spring can establish before the trees have full leaf canopies.

**Overseeding and Renovating**

1. Remove all excess debris and assess your lawn identifying spots that need reseeding.

2. If soil is compacted or has a half inch or more of thatch buildup, core aerate area to

break up the thatch layer and to loosen the soil so the roots can better absorb

moisture and nutrients. The cores should be 2-3 inches deep and 3 inches apart.

Aerators are available at many hardware, garden centers and rental stores.

3. For overseeding, plant grass seed with a slit seeder 1/8 inch deep. Seed to soil

contact is very important for success. Do not plant seed more than 1/4 inch deep.

4. When seeding bare spots, loosen soil to 1/2 inch with a rake, spread seed and gently

rake seed into the soil. Cover with straw or pelletized mulch on sloped areas. The

earlier in spring you reseed the area, the better jump you will get on weed growth.

5. New seeding of large areas, will have best results by planting your lawn seed at half

the rate each in a north/south then an east/west direction. This will give you a

uniform blanket of grass.

6. Apply a starter fertilizer at the rate of 3-4 lbs/1000 Sq. Ft.

7. Apply irrigation daily so the top ½ inch of soil stays moist until the area is mowed

one time. Minimum of 4 weeks of daily irrigation to allow Kentucky Bluegrass to

germinate. When the area is mowed once, irrigation should be applied less

frequently at higher rates to get the root system to grow deeper.

8. Begin mowing once the first seedlings reach a height of 2 to 2 ½ inches to allow light

to reach the slower germinating species. When overseeding, continue to mow the

existing lawn at 2 to 2 ½ inches. After 6 weeks, raise mowing height to 2 ½ to 3

inches. Never mow more than 1/3 of the leaf blade in a mowing.

9. Never apply crabgrass or broadleaf weed control products to

newly seeded or reseeded areas until it has been mowed at

least three times.

**Note: Mower blades should be freshly sharpened every spring to prevent tearing and ripping out of the ground of new seedlings by dull mower blades.**