

Sod Installation



A&R Nursery Sales

Far West Turf and Nursery

Premium Quality at Farm Direct Pricing

Sod Installation Instructions from Your Local Vancouver WA Sod Farm

STEP 1 – Measuring

Using a tape measure, measure the area you would like to sod. Length times width will give you the square footage needed for your area. Schedule your order after all preparatory work is completed and you are ready to install.

STEP 2 – Soil Preparation

PROPER SOIL PREPARATION IS CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF YOUR NEW LAWN!

Remove all existing vegetation. Rototill your entire lawn area. If you need to add soil amendments, now is the time to do it. Use a landscape rake to level out your lawn area. Use a water filled roller to firm your soil. Then water this area thoroughly to further help settle the soil. Your finished grade should be $\frac{3}{4}$ " below any concrete, etc. that you are laying sod adjacent to.

STEP 3 – Fertilizer & Lime

Immediately before installing your sod, apply 16-16-16 fertilizer at the rate of 1 pound per 100 sqft on top of your rolled finished grade using a calibrated broadcast spreader. Next apply prilled lime at the rate of 5-8 pounds per 100 sq. ft. Spread half of the quantity you need in one direction and the other half in the opposite direction.

STEP 4 – Installing Your Sod

INSTALL YOUR LAWN IMMEDIATELY UPON DELIVERY!!!

IT IS NECESSARY TO INSTALL YOUR SOD ONTO MOIST SOIL!

Begin installing your sod along the longest straight edge, such as a sidewalk or driveway, working towards irregular boundaries. If no straight edge is available, stretch a hose or string across the widest portion of your lawn area and begin there. Be sure the soil remains moist and lightly water the sod pieces every 100 sq. ft. or so. Fit the pieces as close together as possible without overlapping eliminating air pockets between the pieces. Stagger the sod pieces as if you are laying bricks. Use a sharp knife or garden spade to trim corners etc. If installing your sod in wet weather, work off a piece of plywood to avoid disturbing your soil.

STEP 5 – Final Step

After your new lawn is down, roll sod with a half filled water roller, rolling perpendicular to the sod strips. Not only will rolling help level your sod, but it will also ensure good contact between sod roots and the soil and eliminate air pockets. Water your lawn when finished rolling. Water thoroughly but not to the point of run-off. Do not allow the surface of your lawn to dry out between watering. CAUTION – During the first couple of weeks, avoid heavy traffic on your new lawn. This gives the roots the opportunity to firmly knit with the soil.

STEP 6 – Mowing

Seven to ten days after installation, begin mowing at the height of 1 ¾” to 2”. Pick up clippings. Immediately after your first mowing you will want to fertilize with 16-16-16 fertilizer at the rate of 1 pound per 100 sq. ft. Maintain a mowing schedule of at least twice a week at the 1 ¾” to 2” height.

STEP 7– Maintaining Your Lawn

PROPER WATERING IS THE MOST IMPORTANT INGREDIENT IN ESTABLISHING AND MAINTAINING YOUR LAWN.

IMPROPER WATERING IS THE GREATEST CAUSE OF LAWN FAILURE.

Follow a consistent watering schedule, increasing water amounts during hot, dry or windy weather. Summer rain is considered a bonus and should not interrupt your regular watering schedule.

MONTHLY LAWN CARE CALENDER

Due to the variability in weather & soils adjustments may be needed – Call us for assistance.

- March 16-16-16 Fertilizer & Annual application of Lime
- April 16-16-16 Fertilizer
- May 16-16-16 Fertilizer
- June 16-16-16 Fertilizer
- July 16-16-16 Slow Release Fertilizer
- September 16-16-16 Slow Release Fertilizer
- November Fall/Winter Fertilizer

Suggested rate of application:

- Lime 5-8 pounds per 100 sq. ft.
- 16-16-16 Fertilizer 1 pound per 100 sq. ft.
- Always apply lime and fertilizer after mowing and water in well!

Note: In March & October you may want to apply a pre-emergent to help control any crab grass or other noxious grass seed from germinating.

Please feel free to call us if you need any assistance!

Farwest Turf Farm and Nursery

35306 Northwest Toenjes Road
Woodland, WA 98674
(360) 263-4700
www.farwestturf.com



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