

Aeration & Over Seeding

After-Care Instructions

To achieve the best results from our aeration and seeding service, we recommend you:

- **Begin watering immediately** and continue to water. Light, frequent watering is best for seedlings. Virginia Green recommends watering to a light puddle, potentially twice a day. Soil should remain damp to the touch over the next 21-28 days.
- **Leave the clumps** left behind by the aerator alone. The clumps of dirt and the holes in the soil are seed beds and will dissolve and disappear over time.
- **Remove fallen leaves** as soon as possible. If leaves remain on the turf more than three days, the turf will suffer. The best method for removing leaves is with a leaf blower, however, if you use a rake be careful not to pull up grass seedlings.
- **Cut watering back** after new seedlings have reached 2 inches in height. When they are two inches tall, watering can be cut back to once a day. Please continue to water!
- **Do not cut your lawn.** Your existing lawn will look tall, but please do not mow until it reaches a height of 4.5 inches. Never cut fescue grass lower than 3 inches. Maintaining this height will help drive the root system deeper and help the turf establish more quickly.
- **Let weeds germinate.** It is more important to establish the grass than to kill weeds at this time. Winter annual weed germination—henbit, chickweed, wild garlic/onion, and bittercress—is normal. Weed control herbicides cannot be applied to new turf. We will treat weeds with the last application in the program and again throughout the spring.
- **Do not apply additional seed** for at least 3 weeks. Remember, seedlings are just one shoot (leaf blade) until the plants begin to expand and mature, sometime after 30-45 days. We plant 1,575,000 seeds per thousand sq. ft. This is more than enough seed to establish a healthy lawn.
- **Wait to use your five-pound seed bags.** Please use the five-pound seed bags to fix thin areas and traffic spots after 21 days. Use a garden rake to gently break the soil— without pulling up existing turf—then lightly seed. Continue to water as directed.
- **Please be patient.** Germination can take 21 days or longer—do not stop watering during this time. Seedlings are very prone to drying out and dying because they are not rooted into the soil.

Please remember that seed germination is a process. We are supplying the necessary fertilizers through our normal lawn care applications for proper germination. We thank you for your business and appreciate your support during this time.