

May 24, 2019

**Re: Sod Installation
2018 Street Reconstruction (18-101)**

«FULLNAME»

«JOFNAME» «JOLNAME»

«Address_1»

«Address_2»

«City_State» «Zip»

Sod installation along the curb in your area was completed on May 10, 2019 as part of the project. The Contractor is responsible for a 30 day sod maintenance period.

The maintenance period for your area ends on June 9, 2019 (Including areas sodded in 2018). The City Inspector will be performing a final inspection of the sod on or around that date. The City Inspector will mark any areas that require replacement. If you have problems or concerns about the sod in your yard, please notify City Inspector Cody Pietz at (952) 356-6839. If the sod passes inspection, the care becomes the responsibility of the homeowner. Any sod that passes inspection and in the future does not survive **will not be replaced by the City.**

Please be aware that sod needs a great deal of water, much more than an established lawn for the first two years. Sod farmers say that if you can walk on your sod without it feeling squishy, it is too dry. Typically, sod needs a minimum of 2" of water each week. That equates to approximately 6 hours of watering. Any rainfall received during the week can be included in your two inch a week watering total. Sod on the north and west sides of the streets receive more sun and therefore need more water to avoid burning.

We need your help to ensure the sod survives and thrives. A sod care sheet is included on the back of this letter for easy reference.

Sincerely,



John Schmeling, P.E.
Assistant City Engineer
(952) 895-4457
john.schmeling@burnsvillemn.gov

Enc. (1)

Cc: Cody Pietz, City Inspector
Nils Hudyma, City Inspector
Jen Desrude, City Engineer
Ryan Peterson, Public Works Director

CARING FOR YOUR NEW SOD

Now that the new sod is in place along the street and driveway areas, care must be taken to insure its survival. We ask for your assistance to help insure that the sod receives adequate water and maintenance.

WATERING

The Contractor will water the sod for the first 30 days only. After the first 30 days, it will be entirely up to you to water the new sod. Your actions over the next two years will be especially important if there are hot temperatures and little rainfall.

The rule of thumb for watering mature lawns is a minimum of one inch per week. New sod requires twice as much water (or two inches per week) done in three or four applications. More frequent, lighter watering is not desirable - which encourages shallow roots. Lawns need deep roots to help them withstand periods of little or no rain. During extended hot, dry periods, new sod should be thoroughly soaked every other day. Checking to see if you are watering enough is easily done by placing a shallow, flat-bottomed container under the sprinkler. Then, just measure the water depth in the container.

Any rainfall received during the week can be included in your two inch a week watering total. You should continue watering the new sod for the remainder of the summer and fall and again the following year. Two years of extra watering is recommended to promote deep root growth. This is especially important with boulevard sod as it has to overcome salt and sand damage caused throughout the winter months.

MOWING

It is recommended that you set the mower deck at the highest setting and cut the new sod with this setting for the remainder of the year. This will allow for the grass to receive the most sunlight.

FERTILIZING

Your new sod was fertilized at the place it was grown; therefore, it will not need fertilizer until the fall. If you fertilize sooner, you risk killing the sod.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE

Remember, even after your new sod appears to have taken hold, it is not as sturdy as an established lawn. It takes a while for the roots to reach their mature length - usually around two years. Until the roots are mature, the sod is still susceptible to dry conditions. Remember to deeply water. It is also advisable to let the sod grow a little longer than normal when conditions are dry. Fertilize lightly if the sod begins to yellow.

**The combined efforts of you and the contractor should result in a healthy, vigorous lawn.
We appreciate your assistance.**