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Landscape Aftercare

We hope you enjoy your new landscape! Please read the information below about caring for your landscape.

Plants

While some plants may be low-maintenance, most require some after care, especially while becoming established. It is natural for newly installed plants to show signs of stress for several days, or weeks in the case of trees, including, wilting, yellowing, loss of leaves, etc. If they are properly watered, they should recover naturally. Please let us know if you notice anything that concerns you about the health of your new plants or lawn and we will be happy to check on them. **Proper watering and observation of general plant health are responsibilities of the owner and is the most important element to maintain healthy plants. Please carefully follow the instructions below to ensure the survival of your investment.**

- Plants prefer to be soaked. Newly installed plants should be watered 2-4 times a week, depending on weather, for at least a month.
- Trees: Soak the root ball for 3-4 minutes with a garden hose every other day during normal conditions. Water more often if leaves start to show signs of wilting. Use caution with evergreens (needle and broad leaf) or if you have clay soil, make sure not to over-water and drown your plant.
- Shrubs: Soak root ball for 30 seconds to a minute, depending on size of plant, every day during hot, dry conditions. Cut back to every other day or as needed during cool or wet periods.
- Perennials: Water for 15-30 seconds as often as is necessary. During hot, dry conditions watering may be required twice daily, however under normal conditions once per day is sufficient.
- Rain does not count as watering for plants, unless it rains at least 1/4 of an inch and soaks into the soil.
- Plants may need supplemental water in dry periods during the **second** season after installation.

Lawn

The **germination time for grass seed ranges from 5 to 30 days** depending on the variety. It can be even longer than this in cooler temperatures. Once the germination process has begun, **if the seed or sprout dries out, it dies.** Seeds will not sprout all at the same time. Many seed mixtures are blends that will have different characteristics affecting their development. The percentage of seed germination **is in your control.** Remember that the long-term benefits far outweigh the trouble you go through while starting a lawn.

- Grass prefers to be sprinkled. Keep the top 1" of lawn surface moist for the first 3 weeks (light daily watering). This may take 2-3 minutes or 5-6 minutes, depending on your sprinkler system and the soil type. Use your judgment. **Moist, but not soggy is the plan!**
- Watering should be **repeated 2 or even 3 times each day**, if the weather is warm or hot enough to require it. Frequent watering is the only way to keep adequate surface moisture.
- For the next 3 weeks, water more thoroughly but less often (2 to 3 times per week).
- Timing: Try to avoid watering in the evening, unless your work schedule makes it absolutely necessary.
- Mowing: Begin mowing the lawn as soon as it needs mowing. It's alright to leave straw on the lawn surface, provided it isn't so thick it smothers young seedlings. Upon mowing, the straw will be chopped up and decompose into the soil.
- Bare spots: 3 to 6 weeks after the initial seeding, spot-seed bare and thin areas. It is important to continue proper watering.
- **It is standard practice for us to return and overseed if there are areas of the lawn that do not germinate. Please let us know how your lawn is doing; if you have concerns we will be happy to stop by.**

Our Guarantee

We guarantee plant material to be alive and healthy upon installation, and to be installed to the best practices of the industry. All plant materials have a one-year, one-time replacement guarantee. This guarantee is valid only if site owner provides proper maintenance. Inappropriate/inadequate watering is the #1 cause of new plant/lawn failure, therefore, we do not guarantee our plant/lawn installations if you opt out of our after care

service. Our Aftercare Service is a great, worry-free way to insure your plants are properly cared for, and is also available for the occasions when you will be out of town! Please see the information below about our Aftercare Service and contact us if you have any questions. We do not guarantee transplants, plants killed or damaged by pests, disease, abnormal weather conditions, seasonal dieback, or other conditions beyond our control. Some plants will suffer 'transplant shock' and may lose up to 2/3 of their foliage. This may take up to two years for them to recover. *Annuals & bulbs, and ground cover are **NOT** warranted.* We cannot warrant against weed growth in mulch or topsoil beds, due to the germination of dormant seeds prevalent in the soil. Warranties are non-transferable. Conditions: A plant will have had to lose a minimum of 50% of its foliage before we will consider replacement. Warranty will cover the replacement using the same size or same value material as initially installed; it does not cover labor or delivery. Replacement plant may differ from original based on availability or designer discretion. Your claim will be handled once payment for the completed job has been made and your account is current. Our office needs to be notified of your specific problem. Once notified, we will inspect the plant material and determine if it is a warrantable item. We will make warranty replacements during the optimum planting seasons: spring and fall.

Our After Care Services

Some clients prefer to use our Aftercare Services. We set up soaker hoses or sprinklers on a timer to automatically turn the water on/off for the plants/lawn. We typically leave the system in place for several weeks, until lawns are established. This service starts at \$45 if set up when plants are installed; if we have to return to set up the system prices range depending on location and amount of supplies needed for the site. Price also includes a site visit to check on the plants when we return to pick up the supplies.