

Buena Vista Turf Farm

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WATERING INSTRUCTIONS

Sod, Trees & Shrubs

Your new lawn and landscape represents an investment which can reap big dividends if cared for properly. Grass, trees and shrubs will make your home more attractive and enjoyable. In addition, these improvements will increase your property value proportionately more than any other home improvement. However, your landscape will not survive, and cannot be warranted, if not given the appropriate attention and climatic conditions. These instructions have been provided to help you care for your investment.

Sod Installed in Summer

As one might expect, improper watering practices account for almost all of the problems in establishing a new lawn. Immediately after installation apply enough water to saturate the ground several inches below the sod pad. Examine the grass frequently to make sure the soil is wet. The sod pad must not be allowed to become dry! Supplemental irrigation is usually required at least once a day. Continue this procedure until the sod has rooted into the soil, which usually occurs within 1 to 2 weeks. For the next 3 to 4 weeks gradually lengthen the time between waterings from once every other day to once every 4 to 5 days.

Do not be alarmed if the grass turns yellow or brown in the first few days after installation. It is not abnormal for newly planted sod to suffer shock. It will regain its green color given sufficient time and water.

An established yard should only be watered when the grass blades show signs of "visual wilt." When this occurs, the lawn should be soaked completely to a depth of 6 inches. Apply water only as fast as it can absorb into the soil. In general, a mature lawn will require a deep soaking every 5 to 6 days. Frequent watering tends to encourage a shallow root system, which makes the lawn susceptible to injury.

Sod Installed in Winter

Bermuda grass installed in the dormant season will survive in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area if cared for properly. Watering procedures for the first 3 or 4 days after installation are the same when the grass is dormant as in the summer. Thereafter, watering every other day is usually adequate, until the grass begins to root. The amount of root growth will vary depending upon the temperature. At this point the watering frequency may gradually be reduced over a 3 to 4 week period. Mature grass requires moisture once a week even in the winter. Remember that cold weather by itself will not kill bermuda grass in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. However, freezing temperatures combined with desiccation (lack of water) can severely injure or kill any lawn.

Grass installed during the winter often does not break dormancy as early in the spring as established turf. It may not start turning green until May, and provide a solid turf until June.

Trees and Shrubs Installed in Summer

Trees and shrubs should be thoroughly soaked to the bottom of the root ball when installed (tree balls are approximately 3 feet deep, shrub roots are approximately 1 foot deep). Thereafter, the soil should be kept moist but not constantly wet. Unlike grass, trees and shrubs must be allowed to dry out slightly so the roots will not be suffocated. They should be examined daily and watered deeply if the soil is dry. In Summer, watering is usually required every 2 to 3 days. Continue this procedure until the roots begin to grow into the soil (1 to 2 weeks for shrubs and 2 to 4 weeks for trees). Then gradually reduce the watering frequency over a 4 week period. Mature trees and shrubs require a deep watering once a week.

Trees and Shrubs Installed in Winter

Water requirements for trees and shrubs installed in the winter are similar to those in summer, except that the soil does not dry out as quickly. After the initial soaking, watering is usually required twice a week for the first 2 to 3 weeks. Be sure the ground has had a chance to dry slightly before watering again. Mature trees and shrubs require a deep soaking once a week in the winter.

The trees and shrubs in your landscape are hardy for this area. However, unusually cold temperatures (below 20 degrees) or extended periods below freezing can injure or kill your landscape. Trees and shrubs should be watered well before the onset of a freeze. Small shrubs should be covered with plastic.

REMEMBER

Don't forget to water trees, shrubs and grass in the parkway and on the sides of the house, as these areas are easily neglected.

A little bit of attention to your landscape can pay big dividends and help make your neighborhood a beautiful place to live.

LUSH LAWN LANDSCAPE, INC.

MAINTENANCE CALENDAR

JANUARY

Mow or spray winter weeds. **Cultivate** annuals once lightly. **Weed** all beds once. **Prune** trees (major Pruning). **Spray** dormant oil on red oak, pecan, crabapple, euonymus, holly, camellia, and any other plants subject to scale insect damage. **Fertilize** pansies and other winter annuals.

FEBRUARY

Mow or spray winter weeds. Lightly **Cultivate** annual beds. **Weed** all beds. **Prune** trees (major pruning). Prune roses around Feb. 22. **Fertilize** pansies and other winter annuals.

MARCH

Scalp all grass areas (remove clippings). In a cold spring, do this in April. **Cultivate** all newly planted beds and annual beds once the last week this month. **Weed** all beds. **Spraying** isn't needed unless we have an early spring, then follow April's schedule. Also watch for aphids on pyracantha, ivy, pittosporum and photinia. Mow groundcover beds to approx. 3" (Asian jasmine, liriop, ophiopogon, euonymus colorata, and vinca). **Fertilize** all planting areas (except azaleas) and grass (**1st Major Fertilization**). **Apply Preemergent Herbicides**. **Shift** or move any wrong color azaleas while they are in bloom.

APRIL

Mow once per week, catching clippings. **Cultivate** (lightly fork) all newly planted areas and annuals every other week. **Prune** azaleas lightly after they have bloomed. **Spray** pyracantha and cotoneaster while in bloom for fireblight. Watch for fungus on leaves of Indian hawthorn and fungus circles on St. Augustine grass. Watch for aphids on new growth of shrubs, ivy and ranunculus. Watch for snails, pill bugs, cutworms, squash bugs, loopers and army worms. **Fertilize** azaleas after blooming; this is the most important time. **Mulch** azaleas and camelia. **Shift** or move any wrong color azaleas while they are in bloom.

MAY

Mow once per week, catching clippings. **Cultivate** (lightly fork) all newly planted areas and annuals every other week. **Spray** for any insect or disease problems. Watch for mildew on crape myrtles, bagworms on conifers, whitefly on gardenias and ligustrum, aphids on new growth of everything. **Plant** summer annuals: **Sun**-- lantana, verbena, portulaca, periwinkle, zinnia, marigold, copperleaf. **Shade** -- caladium, begonia, impatiens, coleus, browallia.

JUNE

Mow once per week, catching clippings. **Cultivate** (lightly fork) all newly planted areas and annuals. **Prune** out all dead or diseased wood. **Spray** for insect or disease problems. **Fertilize** lawns and all planting areas except azaleas (**2nd Major Fertilization**); also fertilize mums and pinch out buds. **Mulch** roses. Watch for powdery mildew on crape myrtle, roses and photinia.

JULY

Mow once per week, catching clippings; raise mowing height during hot weather. **Deep Water** during the hot months. **Cultivate** (lightly fork) all newly planted areas and annuals. **Prune** all dead or diseased wood. **Spray** for any chinch bugs in lawns, and red spider on marigolds, junipers and tomatoes. Red spiders are usually at their peak during the hot, dry months.

AUGUST

Mow once per week, catching clippings. **Cultivate** (lightly fork) all newly planted areas and annuals. **Prune** all dead or diseased wood. Light tipping of summer growth at this time will promote a compact burst of fall growth in Sept. and Oct. **Spray** chinch bugs in St. Augustine lawns. Red spiders are at their peak this month. Apply preventative treatment for grub worms. **Sow** bluebonnet seeds. **Plant** zinnias and marigolds for fall color. **Stop** pinching chrysanthemums the first of the month.

SEPTEMBER

Mow once per week, catching clippings. **Cultivate** all newly planted areas every two weeks. (Not azalea beds). **Prune** all dead or diseased wood. **Spray** for insect or disease problems. Watch for fungus in St. Augustine lawns. Preventative treatment for grub worms is desirable in St. Augustine lawns if not done in the previous month. Apply preemergent herbicide for winter weeds. Early September is last chance to **Seed** or **Hydromulch** Bermuda. Alternate choice is cool season grass (fescue, rye, bluegrass) especially in shady area.

OCTOBER

Mow once per week, catching clippings. **Cultivate** all newly planted areas every two weeks. **Prune** all dead or diseased wood. **Spray** loquats while in bloom for fireblight. **Fertilize** all planting beds (except azaleas) and lawns (**3rd Major Fertilization**). Pull up spent annuals, cut off tops of spent perennials. **Plant** pansies, snapdragons, wall flowers, calendulas. **Divide** perennials. Indoor **Bulb Forcing** should be done.

NOVEMBER

Mow once per week until grass goes dormant. **Cultivate** newly planted areas and annuals once. Remove dead or diseased leaves and wood weekly by pick pruning. **Spray** loquats while in bloom for fireblight. Watch for fungus in lawns of St. Augustine grass. **Fertilize** pansies or other winter annuals. Begin major tree **Pruning**.

DECEMBER

Do not **Mow** unless winter weeds appear. **Hand Water** annuals and new plants. **Cultivate** annuals only. **Major Pruning** of trees should be done. **Spray** dormant oil on red oaks, crabapples and camellias. **Fertilize** pansies and other winter annuals.

INSECT & DISEASE SPRAY CHART

<u>DISEASES</u>	<u>SOLUTION</u>
FIREBLIGHT	Spray Streptomycin when plant is in 100% bloom and again 1 week later.
FUNGAL LEAF SPOT	Spray Benomyl, Zineb or Captan as needed.
BACTERIAL LEAF SPOT	Spray Streptomycin as needed.
BLACK SPOT	Spray Benomyl and Phaltan every two weeks, alternating chemicals.
LAWN FUNGUS	Spray Daconil 2787, Terraclor or Benomyl at 7-10 day intervals.
POWDERY MILDEW	Spray Benomyl or Actidione PM at 7-10 day intervals.
<u>INSECTS & PESTS</u>	<u>SOLUTION</u>
APHIDS	Spray Malathion or Dursban as needed.
ARMY WORMS	Apply Orthene or Bacillus Thuringiensis as needed.
ASPS	Spray Dursban as needed.
BAGWORMS	Spray with Orthene, Bacillus Thuringiensis or Taxaphene. Pull off the bags by hand.
BORERS	Apply Diazinon, Malathion or Lindane full strength into holes with syringe or eye dropper. Seal holes up with putty. Spray trunks with Lindane from May to Sept., once per month.
CATERPILLARS	Apply Diazinon, Bacillus Thuringiensis, Malathion or Orthene.
CHIGGERS	Apply Sulphur Powder to prevent, Aloe Vera or Nail Polish to stop the sting.
CHINCH BUGS	Spray Dursban or Diazinon as needed.
CROWN GALL	No sure cure. Keep plants healthy as possible.
CUTWORMS	Apply Orthene or Bacillus Thuringiensis as needed.
EARWIGS	Control with Sevin Dust.
GRUB WORMS	Apply Granular form of Diazinon in August.
LACEBUGS	Spray with Orthene, Diazinon or Malathion.
LEAFHOPPERS	Spray with Orthene, Diazinon or Malathion.
LEAF MINERS	Spray with Orthene or Isotox as needed and remove the affected leaves.
MEALYBUGS	Spray with Orthene, Diazinon or Malathion.

INSECTS & PESTS**SOLUTION**

NEMATODES

Apply a Granular or Liquid Nematicide as needed.

RED SPIDER (Spider Mites)

Spray Kelthane in 3 applications at 7- day intervals.

SCALE

Spray dormant oil in January or February and follow up with Malathion or Orthene at green up.

SLUG AND SNAILS

Apply Slug Bait, Zectran or Que Bane to the soil around the plants.

THRIPS

Spray Orthene, Diazinon or Malathion.

WHITEFLIES

Spray Malathion or Isotox in 3 applications at 7- day intervals.

VERY IMPORTANT: ALWAYS FOLLOW LABEL INSTRUCTIONS AND UPDATE THIS CHART YEARLY DUE TO PRODUCT CHANGES AND GOVERNMENT RESTRICTIONS. USE A WETTING AGENT OR SPREADER STICKER TO MAKE CHEMICAL ADHERE.