

Troubleshooting Guide

BROWN AREAS

Too Little Water

Sprinkler heads must rise above lawn level. Confirm water is reaching edges along sidewalks and spray patterns overlap.

Poor Contact

Soil may have settled, created air pockets. Pull back the new sod, fill the area with clean soil, and ensure contact between sod and soil. Hand water the area thoroughly.

Installation Error

Sod seams must be tight and abut driveways and sidewalks. Airspace causes dryness. If the lawn adjoins a flowerbed, edges must have soil pushed against them.

SOGGY AREAS

Standing Water

Poor drainage or an air pocket under sod allows water to pool. A small area can be remedied by aerating with a screwdriver, then leveling the pocket with clean soil.

Night Watering

Adjust the irrigation schedule, allowing the lawn to dry before nightfall. Hot, humid air at nights with standing water will cause fungus to start in your lawn.

Helpful Suggestion: Keep sod mowed short as to prevent heat to be trapped in sod.

THINNING

Inadequate Sunlight

Helpful Suggestion: Prune or thin trees or shrubs prior to installation.

Over Watering

Frequent, shallow watering of established lawns, leach nutrients and prevent proper oxygen absorption.

Helpful Suggestion: If the lawn is mature, feed with a balanced fertilizer and schedule irrigation to be deeper and less frequent.

YELLOW SPOTS

Pet Waste

If you have pets (male or female), you will have yellow spots, this is unavoidable.

Pool or Spa Splash

Chlorine and chemicals will yellow a lawn.

Over Watering

Too much water may turn areas yellow, it may be a low area in your lawn.

COMMON ERRORS

Covering Sod – Do not cover sod with plastic, spade cloth burlap etc. It may burn.

Preparing and Installing the Same Day – Prepare two days in advance to identify uneven areas.

Not Pre-Irrigating – Water the night before installation. Dry soil under sod robs the roots of moisture.

Not Watering as you Install – Lightly water after every 10 pieces. New sod cannot be allowed to dry out; even for a short time.

Inadequate Irrigations System – Hand watering will not suffice. Spray patterns must overlap and reach all areas. Timers are recommended.

Delayed Mowing – Mow lightly the first time on day 14. Don't let your lawn get taller than 4".

Scalping – Never mow more than 1/3 of blade length. Check your mower height is in set for your sod variety.

Applying Fungicide – Effective application requires a dry surface. New lawns will not tolerate this condition.

THE SOD FARM