

2022 Street & Utility Improvements

May 12 2023

Construction Newsletter - Tree / Sod

Construction:

- Bituminous Streets
- Sanitary Sewer
- Watermain
- Water & Sewer Services
- Storm Sewer

Construction schedule:

Tentative Start: May 2, 2022

Finish: October 28, 2022

Final Lift: June 2023

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Sod Care

Sod installed Fall of 2022

As indicated previously, there were some concerns with the sod that was placed last fall due to the dry conditions, cold snap, and minimal watering that occurred. Last week we reviewed this sod and it appeared to be in good condition except for some small areas. **These noted areas have been replaced and the remaining portions have been accepted.** We have noticed a handful of property owners mowing their sod shorter than desired. Mowing your grass too short can shock the new sod and kill it. Please note that all maintenance requirements by the contractor are complete and the responsibility for proper sod care is now up to the homeowner. We kindly ask that you properly maintain your yards to ensure continued growth.

Sod installed Spring of 2023

The contractor also finished placing sod on the remaining portions of the project last week. These blocks consisted of 4th Street from Galbraith Street to Rice Street, Galbraith Street from 4th Street to 3rd Street, and Gorman Street from 5th Street to its north dead end. Sod within these boundaries will be maintained by the contractor until June 30th. During this maintenance period, the contractor will water the sod as needed. **Please avoid walking or driving on your new sod for the first three weeks and follow the care instructions that are provided.** During this period, if you notice the sod is drying out, please let Wade Bartz know. After the maintenance period, sod conditions will be reviewed, and any deficiencies will be addressed before final acceptance. If you notice problems with the placement and/or conditions of your new sod, please contact Wade Bartz immediately. **You will be responsible for watering and maintenance of your sod starting on July 1st.**

The City mailed out letters last Fall to residents explaining how to receive a credit on your utility bills while you are watering your new sod. If you have any questions about this, please contact City Hall at the phone number listed on the left.

Project Status

The contractor will continue to work on punchlist items prior to paving the final layer of bituminous. The Mill and Overlay of Galbraith Street from 4th Street to 5th Street is anticipated to begin the end of May. This work will last approximately 2 weeks. Updates will be provided once we learn more about the schedule.

New trees through the project contract have been marked with wood stakes. These trees will be installed yet this Spring. If you had a tree removed and do not see a replacement shown, you can go through the City's new tree reimbursement program. Stop at City Hall to pick up an application.

NEWLY SODDED LAWNS MANAGEMENT



Your new lawn needs proper maintenance to ensure success; particularly in the first several weeks. Please follow the watering and care instructions below to ensure successful establishment.

- You may walk on the lawn to move sprinklers, but keep non-essential foot traffic to a minimum during the initial establishment period.
- You are not applying enough water if the edges between the sod pull apart or are separating.
- Do not water at night or late in the evenings. New seedlings are susceptible to disease; encouraged by prolonged periods of being wet.
- Water along pavement surfaces when temperatures are warmer, as the hot surface will bake the sod.

MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (0-10 DAYS):

- Water each day for at least 15 to 20 minutes in each area of lawn (according to how much water your sprinkler emits).
- Watering a second time each day is recommended when sunny and temperatures are over 65°.
- It is important to saturate the sod so water permeates into the soil. Check to make sure you are watering enough by gently pulling back the corner of the sod in several places throughout the lawn to make sure the soil underneath is moist
- Do not fertilize or mow the lawn!

MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (11-21 DAYS):

- Water every other day for approximately 30 minutes. (Watering for longer periods of time, encourages deeper root growth.)
- Check to make sure you are watering enough by pulling back the corner of the sod in several places throughout the lawn to make sure the soil underneath is moist. The sod should be difficult to pull up. Do not force it! The root system is establishing, and should not be pulled from the soil. Just tug lightly to ensure good rooting. If the lawn is not rooting, you may not be watering enough.
- Cut the grass before watering the lawn. Do not remove more than a third of the grass at one time. (If the grass is 5" tall, do not cut below 3.5" in height.) In general, keep the lawn between 2.75" to 3.5" during establishment. If the lawn is too wet to cut, wait one more day before cutting.
- Do not apply fertilizer!

MAINTENANCE PRACTICES (3 WEEKS AND BEYOND):

- You may begin to cut the lawn more regularly. Do not remove more than a third of the grass at one time. In general, keep the lawn between 2.75" to 3.5" during establishment. The lawn should be fairly well rooted and can take normal wear and tear. Water the lawn approximately 2 times per week, making sure to apply 1" of water each week. Use a pie tin or similar container to measure your irrigation by placing it in the path of the sprinkler. Multiply the amount of water in inches by the number of times you water each week to total 1" per week.
- You may apply a balanced turf fertilizer 6 weeks after installation. Your lawn care company will apply a fertilizer or you may use a consumer product. It is recommended that you use a rotary spreader as opposed to a drop spreader. Look for a fertilizer that has a nutrient ratio of 3:1:2, which indicates the amount of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK).
- Avoid applying herbicides during hot and dry conditions. Herbicides should be applied during cooler weather.

GENERAL CARE FOR NEWLY SODDED LAWNS

	Water	Mowing	Supplemental Fertilizer	Other Application	Other Cultural Practice
0-10 days	15-20 minutes per day per area	No	No	No	No
10-21 days	30 Minutes every other day per area	First cut after 12 to 14 days	No	No	No
3-6 weeks	1" of water per week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	Fertilize at rate of 3/4 lb. slow release nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft.	No	No
22-28 days	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	No	No	No
6 weeks and beyond	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	No	No	No
7-10 weeks	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"	Next regular application	First pesticide application	No
3 months	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"			No
6 months	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"			Aerate
1 year	1" a week	Cut to height of 2.75" to 3.5"			Dethatch/ Verti-cut
Notes	Sod lawn installation requires diligent watering for longer periods of time to encourage establishment. If water is running out from under the sod, the soil is saturated.	Do not water the lawn 1-2 days preceding mowing. Continue watering cycle after first cut.	Apply fertilizer at half the normal rate in shady areas.	Make spot weed control applications as needed, <u>no sooner than</u> 10 weeks from installation date. Use pesticides sparingly, and only as needed	Aerating at least once per year is advisable. Dethatching is necessary in sunnier lawn areas and may not be necessary in shady areas.

Adapted from http://www.lawnlad.com/upload/learning_center/NewSodLawnCare.pdf