

Construction Update No. 7
Woodland Circle, Woodland Lane and Wood End Drive Area
Street Reconstruction Project
City of Edina Contract No. ENG 08-12

June 15, 2009

Woodland Circle, Woodland Lane and Wood End Drive Area
Edina, MN

This letter is to remind you about the warranty of your new sod. All of the sod in the neighborhood has been replaced. We would like to remind everyone that although the new sod will look healthy after it is laid, the roots take time to become well established. Any period of dry weather will stress the new sod, and it could possibly die. Periodic watering within the city's watering restrictions is recommended and will ensure a healthy lawn. Please refer to the **“Caring for your new sod fact sheet”** attached this letter.

Please take note that neither the contractor nor the City of Edina will be responsible for replacing dead sod after the warranty period has been completed.

If you have any issues with your landscaping I would like to meet with you on site to discuss them. This will help to eliminate misunderstandings during the restoration phase.

Edina City staff would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding throughout the duration of the project.

If your understanding is different or if you have any questions or need additional information please contact me at 952-826-0448 or at jfrahm@ci.edina.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Jeff Frahm
City Inspector

Enclosure

C: Wayne Houle – City of Edina
Jack Sullivan – City of Edina

CARING FOR YOUR NEW SOD FACT SHEET

New sod has arrived or will be arriving within the next week along the street and driveway areas in your neighborhood. Care must be taken in order that it survives. We ask for your assistance to help ensure the sod receives adequate water and maintenance. Please avoid walking on your new sod for the first two weeks. The combined efforts of you and the contractor should result in a healthy, vigorous lawn.

WATERING

Please begin watering your new sod as soon as it has been placed. Your efforts, when combined with the contractor watering the sod for the required 42-day maintenance period, will help ensure the sod will grow and your lawn looking its best. After the initial 42-day sod maintenance period, it will be entirely up to you to water the sod. **Neither the contractor nor the City of Edina will be responsible for replacing dead sod after the initial 42-day growing period.** The rule of thumb for watering mature lawns is a minimum of 1 inch per week. **New sod requires twice as much water, or 2 inches per week done in 3 or 4 applications.** More frequent, lighter watering is not desirable. They encourage shallow roots instead of deep roots. Lawns need deep roots to help them withstand periods of little or no rain. Checking to see if you are watering enough is 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 2 inches a week watering total.* You should continue watering the new sod for the remainder of the fall until the first few frost events.

MOWING AND FERTILIZING

Do not mow your newly placed sod for at least 3 weeks come spring time! This is the only method by which your sod will develop deep roots. Your new sod should not be mowed until either the grass lies over and mats down when wetted, or the grass goes to seed. Don't be alarmed if either of these conditions does not occur in the first 30 days. **Prior to mowing, set the mower deck at the highest setting and cut the new sod with this setting for the first several months. Your new sod may die if you cut it at the same setting as the one you ordinarily use to cut your mature lawn.**

Your new sod was fertilized at the place it was grown; therefore, it will not need fertilizer until next summer. **If you fertilize sooner, you risk killing the sod.** When you do fertilize, use a phosphorus-free fertilizer (i.e. 15-0-0, middle number is phosphorous and should be zero) and follow the manufacture's instructions on application rates.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE

Remember, even after you 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. Until the roots are mature, the sod is still susceptible to dry conditions. Remember to water deeply. It is also advisable to let the sod grow a little longer than normal when conditions are dry. Fertilize as described above if the sod begins to yellow.