

Construction Update No. 6
Woodland Circle, Woodland Lane and Wood End Drive Area
Street Reconstruction Project
City of Edina Contract No. ENG 08-12

April 29, 2009

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

Neighborhood Residents,

Spring has come and it is time to complete remaining items from last summer. The contractor will be on-site within the next week. If you have any issues with any work done last year, please let me know so I can inform the contractor. Since the sod was placed after November 15th the contractor still has warranty on the sod starting April 15th. I do know that there are areas out there that need to be re-graded and I will have the contractor address those areas first. Even though the sod has warranty left we still need help from you on caring and maintaining the new sod. Below you will find helpful hints that may help you with caring for your new sod.

If you have not done so yet please contact your irrigation/pet containment contractor and schedule a date to repair damages to the systems as a result of the roadway construction. **Please inform your contractor to invoice the City of Edina, Engineering Department, directly for the repair work** (see address below). Please contact us if you need any assistance to coordinate this work. We understand that some systems may not be repaired until the end of spring, however, please note that all reimbursements, either to the homeowner or a contractor, by the City of Edina **must be made by June 1, 2008**, no exception.

The Contractor has scheduled the final layer of bituminous to be paved in the next month. We will notify you when this work will happen and will ask you not to park on any of the roads in the neighborhood during this time. During this time you can park in your driveway, or on any adjacent roadway to the project.

Once the final bituminous roadway is completed the contractor will begin to do final restoration items in the entire project. Storm and sanitary lines will be cleaned of any remaining sediment. Any outstanding issues regarding restoration of your property should be brought to our attention immediately.

CARING FOR YOUR NEW SOD FACT SHEET

The new sod that was placed late last fall in your front yard needs special attention and care must be taken to make sure it survives. We are asking for your assistance to ensure the sod receive adequate water and maintenance. Please avoid walking on your new sod as much as possible. Please refer to the section below about mowing and fertilizing this spring. It is important to follow these recommendations listed below to keep the full warranty in place. **If you have a lawn service, please share this information with them.**

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 wet 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.

If you have any questions feel free to give me a call. 952-826-0448.

Thank you,

Jeff Frahm
Project Inspector / Project Manager
City of Edina

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