MAINTENANCE REQUIRED FOR NEW LAWNS

For Seeded Lawns:

Your seeded lawn needs to be watered in each section for at least 30 minutes for proper saturation. Over-watering a seeded area can result in wash-out, so take care to monitor areas for standing water. After one month, the lawn is ready for its first cutting. Set the lawn mower at its highest setting when cutting for the first time. Subsequent cuttings can be lower, but remember that keeping the grass higher keeps the ground moist and the lawn greener and weed-free. Do not apply any weed killer for one year from the time of seeding. Follow the fertilizing schedule of once a month during the growing season from May-October. Use as starter fertilizer with an analysis 20-10-10 in the spring, then a 10-10-10 each month, with a final application of 20-10-10 in the fall.

For Sod Lawns:

Sod requires a greater amount of water compared to seeded lawns. Keep the lawn well-saturated for 14 days after installation, until the grass roots into the existing ground. Watering sod areas for two hours every day will be adequate. It is almost impossible to over-water sod. Use impact-head sprinklers when watering for the best, most-even coverage when watering. You can reduce the watering after two weeks, and begin cutting if the grass is well-rooted to the existing soil. The grass in the sod is at least a year old, so it can be treated like a year-old established lawn for fertilizing. Follow the fertilizing schedule above for keeping your lawn healthy.
MAINTENANCE REQUIRED FOR NEWLY-PLANTED SHRUBS

Newly planted shrubs need watering about once a week. One gallon of water per week is sufficient for most situations. Put the hose close to the ground, to maximize water usage. Make sure the area is soaked with water, as various soil types require different frequencies and amounts of water. The shrubs have been treated with a slow-release fertilizer that will fertilize the shrubs for a minimum of three years.

Do not trim any live branches until the following year, preferably the following autumn. Any dead branches can be trimmed immediately after planting.

In the fall, watering can be less frequent, giving the tree one final watering before winter. The following year, it is not necessary to water the tree, as natural rain water should take care of the plant, except for unusually hot and dry weather. In these cases, follow the directions above until the period of drought has passed.

MAINTENANCE REQUIRED FOR NEWLY PLANTED TREES

Newly planted potted trees need to be watered about a gallon once a week, up to twice a week during hot, dry weather. Put the hose close to the ground, to maximize water usage. Make sure the immediate ground around the tree is saturated after each watering.

Balled and burlapped trees need to be watered about five gallons once a month, or twice a month during hot and dry times of the year. The trees have been treated with a slow-release fertilizer that will fertilize the tree for a minimum of three years.

Do not trim any live branches until the following year, preferably the following autumn. Any dead branches can be pruned at any time.

In the fall, watering can be less frequent, giving the tree one final watering before winter. The following year, it is not necessary to water the tree, as natural rain water should take care of the plant, except for unusually hot and dry weather. In these cases, follow the directions above until the period of drought has passed.