



## Watering Instructions

It is very important to follow the watering and care instructions detailed below over the next few weeks in order to insure proper germination of your tall fescue seed. You cannot hardly overwater during the first 7 days—the more the better. As the seedlings come up, you can gradually cut back on the frequency of irrigation while increasing the duration.

Try to keep traffic off the seedbed as much as possible, especially during the first few weeks while the seedlings are tender. As leaves begin to drop this fall, you'll need to blow or carefully rake leaves up so that they won't accumulate on top of the seedlings. Mowing and bagging the leaves is a good way to keep your new turf clean also. A good seed job can really be hurt if leaves pile up too much, so please keep leaves off as much as possible.

The chart below is a general guideline on watering. With Armyworms being a problem this fall in some lawns, we added a liquid insecticide to your lawn also as a precaution. This helps protect it for a couple of weeks but armyworms can be a threat until the first frost. If you would like repeat applications to protect your new Fescue just give us a call. For this reason delay your initial watering until tomorrow morning. With your first watering, really soak the seed into the ground well with several hours of watering. (If your lawn pools easily you are better off watering to the point of pooling then letting it soak in and repeating a couple of times to keep seeds from washing out. After that, you can begin the 2-3 times per day watering for about 15 minutes per cycle. If you cannot water twice daily, just increase the time to about 40 minutes every day and you'll still be OK. The seeds are very shallow in the soil, so you just need to keep the top inch of soil moist during germination. As the seedlings develop deeper root systems, you'll need to water longer in order to moist the soil to a depth of about 6". Fall weather can sometimes be warm and dry, so if that is the case, you'll need to water even more than what is detailed below. If we get some good soaking rains, you can cut back some on this schedule.

	Watering Frequency	Watering Times
1st Week	2-3 times daily	15-20 minutes
2nd Week	Daily	20-30 minutes
Weeks 3-4	Every other day	25-30 minutes
After 4 Weeks	Every 3 days	30-40 minutes

We'll return in about 3-4 weeks to check on your seedlings and overseed any thin areas. If you water well, you should begin to see seedlings come up in about 10 days, with a fairly thick stand of seedlings within about 6 weeks. It will get a good start now, but your fescue will really begin to thicken up and fill in thin areas as it matures next spring.

Call LawnAmerica at 249-LAWN if you have any questions. Thanks!