



# CARING FOR YOUR NEW LAWN

## WATERING NEW TALL FESCUE SOD LAWNS:

If your lawn started from seed, **do not** use these instructions. Different types of grass and soil will affect these watering times.

- Water for 15–30 minutes in the early morning before 10am. Then water for another 15–30 minutes in the late afternoon, between 4pm–6pm but not after 6pm.
- Water 2–3 times per week for 3–4 weeks. After that, refer to **Watering Established Lawns** information.
- If you notice any water running off during watering, decrease the watering time. Once water is running off, it is causing more harm than good.
- After the first week of the sod being installed, occasionally walk along the seams between the sod pieces to gently press the sod down into the soil and help the roots to knit in.
- You can mow your new sod approximately 1 week after installation with a mower height set to 3" with a walk-behind mower. Grass clippings may be left on the lawn to return nutrients to the root zone.

## WATERING ESTABLISHED LAWNS:

This information applies to most types of grass and soils but you may need to adjust based on your specific type of grass and soil makeup.

- Lawns need between 1" to 1.5" of water per week even during the winter.
- A rain gauge can help determine how much water you have gotten from nature, supplement the rest with watering.
- Water in the morning, before 10am.
- Water deeply, 2–3 times per week rather than daily.
- A typical watering schedule would be:
  - **FOR 1" OF WATER:** 20 minutes (in each zone), 3 times per week.
  - **FOR 1.5" OF WATER:** 30 minutes (in each zone), 3 times per week.
  - If you purchased from Miller Family Homes, your sprinkler system should already be programmed for your lawn.
- Weather will affect watering. Use a rain gauge and the **General Tips** below to help determine if you need to water more or less.

## GENERAL LAWN CARE & WATERING TIPS:

- Mower height should be set to 3" throughout the season. Leave Grass clippings on the lawn to return nutrients to the roots.
- If your lawn starts growing mushrooms, you're watering too much.
- If water is running into the street while your watering, you're watering for too long – adjust your watering time.
- If your lawn has a grayish tint or is a dull green, then it needs watered.
- If your footprints don't disappear quickly after walking on it, then it needs watered.
- If it's hot, windy, hasn't rained, or has rained, adjust your watering schedule based on the weather.
- Overwatering is as harmful as not watering at all.
- The later in the day you water, the greater chance of disease you're welcoming.
- Lawns turn brown when they go dormant (to sleep), as they seasonally do in the late Fall and early Winter. If you aren't watering enough, your lawn will try to go dormant to protect itself.
- If a dormant lawn doesn't return to a lush green color after watering or has brown spots, your lawn may be sick. Contact a lawn care company for a diagnosis to get your lawn healthy again.

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All information provided here is intended to be a guide for watering your lawn and should not be used in place of information, advice or help provided by professional lawn care technicians or sprinkler installation professionals. Miller Family Homes cannot be held responsible for any negative results from the information provided here. If you have significant questions or concerns about your lawn, contact a professional lawn care company.