

## Lawn care recommendations for after construction

Below are some brief answers to frequently asked questions regarding post-construction lawn care. For more detailed information, we recommend the University of Illinois Lawn Talk website which can be found at <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/lawntalk/index.cfm>

How often should I water?

For the newly seeded lawns, the soil should be kept damp. Generally watering lightly in the morning and late afternoon is sufficient since the erosion control blanket will help keep the moisture from evaporating. As the grass grows, you should water more deeply, but less frequently.

When can I mow my new lawn?

The new grass can be mown as soon as it is 3-3.5" tall. For best results, cut at a higher lawnmower setting and remove no more than 1/3 of the grass blade.

What should I do with the straw blanket?

The erosion control blanket is made out of straw with a biodegradable mesh. It is designed to rapidly disintegrate, so it is not necessary to remove. However, if the blanket is pulling up and you are worried about your mower, you can carefully remove loose sections prior to your first mowing.

What should I do with the metal pins that hold down the blanket?

The metal spikes can be left in place where they will eventually rust out. Their long-term presence will not harm the lawn. If they are sticking up, you can either pull them out as soon as the lawn is ready to mow, or push them into the dirt.