

Sodding Standard

Installation:

Shape and smooth the soil surface to final grade in accordance with the approved grading plan.

Add lime to reach a soil pH value required by the specific grass. Fertilize according to a soil test or in the absence of a test use available nitrogen, phosphorous and potash as prescribed for permanent seeding. Work lime and fertilizer into the soil 3- to 6-inches deep and smooth the surface.

Clear the soil surface of trash, debris, roots, branches, stones and soil clods in excess of 2-inches of length or diameter. Rake soil surface to break crust just before laying sod, or irrigate soil lightly if the soil is dry. Do not install sod on hot, dry soil, compacted clay, frozen soil, gravel, or soil than has been treated with pesticides.

Sod should be harvested, delivered, and installed within a period of 36 hours. Store rolls of sod in the shade during installation. Sod should be free of weeds and be of uniform thickness (approximately 1-inch) and should have a dense root mat for mechanical strength.

Lay strips of sod beginning at the lowest area to be sodded with the longest dimension of the strip perpendicular to the slope, and stagger in a brick-like pattern. Wedge strips securely in place. Square the ends of each strip to provide for a close, tight fit. Match angled ends correctly to prevent voids.

Roll or compact immediately after installation to ensure firm contact with the underlying topsoil.

Irrigate the sod until the soil is wet to a depth of 4-inches, and keep moist until grass takes root.

If placed on steep slopes, sod should be laid with staggered joints and/or be pegged and stapled. In areas such as steep slopes or next to running waterways, chicken wire, jute, or other netting can be placed over the sod for extra protection against lifting.

Inspection and Maintenance:

Watering may be necessary after planting and during periods of intense heat and/or lack of rain (drought). Keep soil moist to a depth of 2-inches until sod is fully rooted.

Mow to a height of 2- to 3-inches after sod is well-rooted (2-3 weeks). Do not remove more than 1/3 of the shoot in anyone mowing.

Permanent, fine turf areas require yearly applications of fertilizer and lime.

Inspect the sod frequently after it is first installed, especially after large storm events, until it has established a permanent cover.



City of Bowling Green

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SODDING

STANDARD DRAWING NO. **EPP-07-02**

APPROVED BY: _____ DATE _____
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

SOURCE: LOUISVILLE MSD