City Of Burnsville
952-895-4400
100 Civic Center Parkway • Burnsville, Minnesota 55337-3817
www.burnsville.org

September 4, 2015

Re: ***Sod Replacement – Warranty Expiration***
City Project No. 15-101A – Leisure Estates Area Street Reconstruction

Dear Property Owner:

The sod in your neighborhood has been installed and has reached the end of its warranty period. This means that the Contractor will no longer be responsible for its care. If the sod passes inspection, the care then becomes the responsibility of the homeowner. Any sod that passes the inspection and then in the future does not survive **will not be replaced by the City**.

The warranty period for your area ends on **September 14, 2015**. The City Inspector will be performing a final inspection of the sod on September 14, and marking any areas that require replacement. If you have problems or concerns about the sod in your yard, please notify the inspector, Nils Hudyma, at 612-619-5892, or via e-mail at nils.hudyma@burnsvillemn.gov.

Replacement of sod in the Leisure Estates Phase 1 areas, if necessary, will likely occur in conjunction with sod installation in Phase 2 areas at the end of September or beginning of October.

Please be aware that sod needs a great deal of water, much more than an established lawn for the first two years. Sod farmers say that if you can walk on your sod without it feeling squishy, it is too dry. Typically, sod needs a minimum of 2" of water each week. That equates to approximately 6 hours of watering per week. Any rainfall received during the week can be included in your two inch a week watering total. Sod on the north and west sides of the streets receive more sun and therefore need more water to avoid burning.

We need your help to ensure the sod survives and thrives. A sod care sheet is enclosed for easy reference.

Sincerely,

City of Burnsville

Brian D. Connolly
Assistant City Engineer
952-895-4457
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cc: Nils Hudyma, City Inspector
Brad Mikiska, City Inspector
Cody Pietz, City Inspector
Ryan Peterson, City Engineer
Steve Albrecht, Public Works Director

CARING FOR YOUR NEW SOD

Now that the new sod is in place along the street and driveway areas, care must be taken to insure its survival. We ask for your assistance to help insure that the sod receives adequate water and maintenance.

WATERING

The Contractor will water the sod for the first 30 days only. After the first 30 days, it will be entirely up to you to water the new sod. Your actions over the next two years will be especially important if there are hot temperatures and little rainfall.

The rule of thumb for watering mature lawns is a minimum of one inch per week. New sod requires twice as much water (or two inches per week) done in three or four applications. More frequent, lighter waterings are not desirable - they encourage shallow roots. Lawns need deep roots to help them withstand periods of little or no rain. During extended hot, dry periods, new sod should be thoroughly soaked every other day. Checking to see if you are watering enough is easily done by placing a shallow, flat-bottomed container under the sprinkler. Then, just measure the water depth in the container.

Any rainfall received during the week can be included in your two inch a week watering total. You should continue watering the new sod for the remainder of the summer and fall and again the following year. Two years of extra watering is recommended to promote deep root growth. This is especially important with boulevard sod as it has to overcome salt and sand damage caused throughout the winter months.

MOWING

It is recommended that you set the mower deck at the highest setting and cut the new sod with this setting for the remainder of the year. This will allow for the grass to receive the most sunlight.

FERTILIZING

Your new sod was fertilized at the place it was grown; therefore, it will not need fertilizer until the fall. If you fertilize sooner, you risk killing the sod.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE

Remember, even after your new sod appears to have taken hold, it is not as sturdy as an established lawn. It takes awhile for the roots to reach their mature length - usually around two years. Until the roots are mature, the sod is still susceptible to dry conditions. Remember to deeply water. It is also advisable to let the sod grow a little longer than normal when conditions are dry. Fertilize lightly if the sod begins to yellow.

The combined efforts of you and the contractor should result in a healthy, vigorous lawn.
We appreciate your assistance.