

Lawn Establishment and Care

Soil Preparation and Planting

- Provide a 6" base of good topsoil. Add organic matter to the soil if there is an inadequate base.
- Pick up debris such as rocks, sticks, dirt clods and weeds.
- Analyze soil for pH and add lime as needed. A pH of 6-7 is the ideal range for lawns. Nutrients are unavailable to the plants when the pH is lower than 6. Gather at least six soil samples from a depth of 4-6 inches and mix together. Two cups of this mixture is needed for a soil test. Mix the recommended amount of lime in the top 4-6 inches of soil. As the neutralizing effect of the lime is not immediate, often taking at least several weeks, it is suggested that lime be added as soon as possible.
- Just prior to seeding, mix fertilizer (16-16-16) into soil.

- Rake the soil to even it out, then roll with a heavy (water-filled) roller.
- Spread grass seed with a whirlybird spreader at a rate of 1 pound per 400 square feet. Divide seed into two portions. Seed the area twice, once in one direction, then the second time at right angles to the first application.
- Rake the seed in lightly; then roll with an empty roller. Water thoroughly and keep moist.
- Germination takes approximately 2-3 weeks.

Maintaining a New Lawn

- Do not mow a new lawn until the grass reaches a height of 3".
- Do not use weed killers formulated for lawns until the grass has been cut at least 3 times.

- Continue to use 16-16-16 fertilizer the first season. Do not fertilize with a high nitrogen fertilizer after mid-August.

Maintaining an Established Lawn

- Rake yard in spring when ground is dry.
- Fertilize with 16-16-16 when grass shows signs of growth. Water immediately after applying fertilizer to prevent fertilizer burn. Apply lime if needed. Use 22-4-4 fertilizer in later feedings during the season. Avoid applying a high nitrogen fertilizer after mid-August.
- Mow when grass reaches a height of 2-3".



Specking Road
West on DeArmoun Rd.
Between Old & New Seward Hwys.
North on Specking
345-4476

Bell's Nursery
We're down to earth

Cranberry Road
Off Jewel Lake Rd.
East on Strawberry
to Cranberry
243-1020

DeArmoun Road
3125 DeArmoun Rd.
345-2654