



Over Watering

Watering your mature, healthy lawn every day, or even every other day is the definition of over watering. This is wrong no matter what other people tell you, or what your neighbors do!

Over watering drowns the plant's roots.

Grass plants do not need and cannot use, this much water! The soil underneath your sod is composed of sand, silt and clay particles, as well as porous spaces. When it rains, water fills those porous spaces by pushing out the air. Daily watering keeps those pores filled with water instead of oxygen; which is vital to plant growth. Without oxygen, the roots of the sod will suffocate and die.

Plants with shallow roots are easily stressed.

When the roots of the turf plant die due to lack of oxygen, the plant is put under stress. This, in turn, makes them more susceptible to disease and insect damage. Minor disease and insect problems can become major lawn disasters when a lawn is shallowly rooted. Even though the roots are not easily visible, they alone determine the health and beauty of the plant.

Over watered lawns have more weeds.

To compound the problem, the weeds that over watered lawns often have are the varieties that are more difficult to control. This is especially noticeable on a lawn that has been over watered for more than two years.

Over watering wastes time and money, and contributes to pollution.

Ground water is a natural resource. Wasting water on plants that do not need it just doesn't make sense. Pumping this unneeded water also wastes electricity. Established lawns do not dry in drought-- they go dormant, and start growing again after a rain. Your lawn will not die if you underwater it. Also, fertilizer that is applied to an over watered lawns is washed past the roots before it can be absorbed by the plant. Ultimately, this results in nitrate pollution of the groundwater.

Excessive fertilizer applications are needed.

Since the fertilizer that you have applied is washed through the root zone before absorption, the lawn will lose color faster. The natural response, of course, is to then apply more fertilizer. In reality, one application that is absorbed, and not washed out, is all that is needed.