

Rivendell Distribution & Sod Farm

3961 County Road 114
Glenwood Springs, Co. 81601

YOUR GUIDE TO LONG TERM LAWN MAINTENANCE

Strong and healthy grass is more beautiful and requires less maintenance. Here are some tips to keep your lawn healthy!

Watering- You have the most drought tolerant, toughest seed varieties available; make them do some of the work for you! Once the sod is very well established (2 months +) force it to go down looking for water by watering it deeply, only when needed. (A turquoise color is the first stage of drought stress and your signal to soak your lawn.)

Mowing- Mow one week after installation. The first few mowings should be diagonal to the way the sod was laid. Never cut more than a third of the plant blade at a time because the grass will think it has been scalped and go into shock. Always keep your mower blades sharp. Dull blades chew off grass rather than slicing cleanly—the ragged edges brown, the yard looks yellowed and it makes the grass vulnerable to other problems.

Fertilization- Growing things must have food. The soils in our valley are nutrient-poor in general and almost totally deficient in some elements. Iron and sulphur are the two specific needs that are not found in most national products. **Rivendell's Own Mountain Maintenance Mix** has a slow release formula with 3% iron and 10% sulphur to compensate for these soil deficiencies. We recommend a fertilizer program that is a combination of Rivendell's Own Maintenance Mix and organic-based fertilizers. The general feeding program and schedule are as follows:

Date	Optimal Fertilizer Choices
SPRING Late April/Early May	Rivendell's Own Mountain Maintenance Mix (18-5-12-10s-3fe) Rivendell's Own with Organics (16-5-9-7s-3fe) AlphaLawn 2 Organic (15-2-2-2s-2fe)
SUMMER Early July	Rivendell's Own with Organics (16-5-9-7s-3fe) Alpha 4 Iron Organic (8-4-4-4s-4fe) AlphaOne Natural Organic (7-2-2-1s-1fe)
FALL Late September	Rivendell's Own Mountain Maintenance Mix (18-5-12-10s-3fe) Rivendell's Own with Organics (16-5-9-7s-3fe) AlphaLawn Winterizer Organic (12-4-4-4s-2fe)

An organic feeding once a year is beneficial for lawns because only organic fertilizers provide active enzymes and microbial action that fight compaction and improve soil health. We recommend **Alpha One Fertilizers**, an alfalfa based organic fertilizer with blood and bone meal that is produced in Colorado for our soils. With our heavy clays, core aerating annually also helps prevent soil compaction.

If you would prefer to use the same fertilizer year-round, we suggest **Rivendell's Own with Organics**, our original fertilizer mixed with 20% organic fertilizer specially blended by Alpha One. This fertilizer provides a good balance of quality fertilizer and organic nutrients for your lawn and soil.

Avoid weed and feeds for routine maintenance. Healthy grass chokes out most weeds, but there are professional products for specific problems you may have, just ask your local nursery. Treating the isolated problem is healthier for both your home and the environment.

This fertilizing program is a general suggestion that works for most homeowners, but it may be altered to meet the specific needs of your lawn. (Using an exclusively organic program, supplementing with an additional feeding, etc...)

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NEW LAWN INSTALLATION GUIDE

Install your lawn immediately upon delivery. (Don't forget your pre-plant fertilizer on top of dirt.) Sod is a living plant that requires soil contact, moisture and sunshine for survival!

Begin installing sod along the longest straight line, such as a driveway or sidewalk. Butt all edges together tightly without stretching and avoid gaps or overlaps. Stagger the joints in each row in a brick-like pattern. Avoid leaving small strips at the outer edge, as they will not retain moisture well. Protect exposed edges with dirt or edging when finished.

Give your new lawn at least 1 inch of water within 1/2 hour of installation. Water twice daily, or more often with hot windy conditions, keeping sod moist until it is firmly rooted (about 2 weeks) then begin less frequent and deeper watering.

Remember that wind patterns and heat reflection (windows, sidewalks, etc.) may affect water needs!

LOOK FOR OUR PRODUCTS AT THESE LOCATIONS

Customer	Phone	City
Alpine Ace Hardware	970-925-3031	Aspen
Mountain Greenery	970-927-1003	Aspen
Planted Earth	970-963-1731	Aspen/Carbondale
Eagle Crest Nursery	970-963-1173	Carbondale
Hyrup Feed and Ranch Supply	970-963-3005	Carbondale
Roaring Fork Valley COOP	970-963-2220	Carbondale
Stephens Nursery	970-524-9344	Dotsero
Head Start Hydroponics	970-569-3139	Edwards
Glenwood Gardens	970-945-6747	Glenwood Springs
Glenwood True Value	970-945-9453	Glenwood Springs
G.H.Daniels & Assoc..	970-524-5010	Gypsum
Johnies Garden	970-827-9200	Minturn
Mr. T's Hardware	970-984-2977	New Castle
Palisade Greenhouse, Inc.	970-464-4844	Palisade
Grand River Tree Farm	970-625-3793	Rifle
Mountain View Tree Farm	970-625-6168	Rifle
Valley Lumber Company	970-625-9663	Rifle
Alpine Garden Center	970-876-5804	Silt
HY-Way Feed	970-876-2724	Silt
Garden Center,The	970-949-5077	Vail
Matthews & Associates	970-524-8733	Vail