

Watering Practices

- Lawns in New England don't have to be watered to survive. They may turn brown and dormant during periods of drought, but will turn green rapidly when moisture in the soil is replaced with natural precipitation.
- The more you water your lawn, the faster it's going to grow and the more you will have to mow.
- Conserve resources by not watering unless the grass really needs it.
- If you choose to water, one inch of water is adequate to wet the soil to a depth of 4" – 6". Place an empty can under the sprinkler to measure when an inch has been applied. If water begins to run off the lawn before an inch is applied, turn off the sprinkler and let it soak in for an hour or so before resuming watering.
- Water deeply less frequently to encourage deep root growth. Light frequent watering encourages shallow roots and may lead to increased disease and stress injury.
- The best time to water is in the morning because less water is lost through evaporation and transpiration.
- Avoid watering during mid-day and try not to water in the evenings since a lawn that remains damp during the night is prone to disease.

About Thatch

- Turf experts nationwide agree that clippings do not produce thatch because they are 80% water and decompose quickly.
- Thatch is an accumulation of dead roots and stems and is most often caused by over fertilizing and over watering.
- A thatch layer of more than ½" should be removed for a healthy lawn.