


# Overseeding Without Wasting Guidelines



*Residential Customers are encouraged not to overseed to avoid exceeding their assigned water budget. If you choose to overseed, follow the guidelines listed below to minimize excessive overseeding water use.*

- 1 Do not overseed too early.**  
Planting seed between mid-October and mid-November requires much less germination water than planting in September or early October.
- 2 Reduce fertilization.**  
Slow growth of Bermuda grass by ending fertilization 4-6 weeks before laying down seed.
- 3 Prepare your seedbed.**  
Two weeks before planting, reduce irrigation schedule by 50% and gradually lower your cutting height to ½ inch by your scheduled planting day. Rake and remove all clippings and lawn debris so that the sowed seed will contact the soil.
- 4 Check your sprinklers for proper operation.**
- 5 Follow the directions on the seed package label when planting.**
- 6 Insure good seed-soil contact.**  
Rake the seeded area lightly to enhance seed-soil contact.
- 7 Cover the seed.**  
Apply 1/8 inch -1/4 inch of seed cover over the planted area by spreading with the back of the rake.
- 8 Make sure the seed cover is wet to the soil surface.**

- 9 Implement this germination irrigation schedule\***  
Begin watering for 3 minutes (spray heads) or 10 minutes (rotary heads) per irrigation, 5x/day, at 2 hour intervals, starting at 8 a.m.
- 10 Watch for germination in about 7 days.**
- 11 Reduce irrigation.**  
When grass blades are 1-inch high, reduce irrigation to 3x day.
- 12 Don't mow too early or too low.** Mow your new grass according to seed package label recommendations.
- 13 Resume normal irrigation using CVWD's Watering Guide for Turf Grass after the second mowing.**

Watering Guide for Turf Grass (in minutes per day)				
	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Spray heads	10	7	4	3
Rotary heads	22	14	10	6
Individual watering times vary based on sprinkler efficiency, soil and weather conditions.				

\*Due to differences in ET0 zones and sprinkler performance, this recommended overseeding irrigation schedule should be accompanied by frequent observation. The overseed cover should never be allowed to dry out prior to the first mowing.



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