

NEW SOD. STRONG START.

Your new St. Augustine lawn needs consistent moisture while roots knit into the soil. Follow this guide for the first 30 days, adjusting only for meaningful rainfall.

30-DAY WATERING PLAN

WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
3x daily Morning • Midday • Late afternoon Keep the sod and soil beneath it consistently moist.	2x daily Morning • Late afternoon Continue even coverage as roots begin to establish.	1x daily Early morning Water deeply enough to moisten the root zone.	Every other day Early morning Begin training the lawn for deeper, less frequent watering.

RAIN COUNTS	This schedule assumes no rain. Skip or shorten a cycle when rainfall has thoroughly soaked the sod and the soil beneath it. Do not water during heavy rain or if water is pooling or running into the street.
CHECK COVERAGE	Inspect corners, edges, narrow strips and areas blocked by roofs, fences or shrubs. These spots dry first. Lift one corner gently: the soil beneath should feel moist, not muddy.

HOW MUCH WATER?

The goal Moisten the entire sod layer and the top few inches of soil without creating puddles, runoff or constantly soggy ground.

Your system Run times vary by sprinkler type, pressure, shade and soil. Watch the lawn during the first cycles and adjust each zone for even moisture.

Best timing Use early morning as the primary watering time. During the first two weeks, space added cycles apart so the sod stays moist through the hottest part of the day.

After week 4, transition to your normal St. Augustine schedule based on weather, soil and local watering rules. Established lawns generally do better with deep, infrequent watering than light daily watering.

MOWING & EVERYDAY CARE

30

**WAIT 30 DAYS BEFORE
THE FIRST MOW**

Mow only after the sod has rooted firmly and cannot be lifted easily at the corners. If it still moves, wait. Use a sharp blade and avoid mowing wet turf.

3.5-4 inches	Never cut St. Augustine below 3.5 inches. A 3.5- to 4-inch mowing height supports deeper roots, better shade and improved stress tolerance.
Follow the 1/3 rule	Never remove more than one-third of the leaf blade in a single mowing. If the lawn gets too tall, lower it gradually over multiple cuts.
Limit traffic	For the first 2-3 weeks, keep people, pets, equipment and vehicles off the sod as much as possible. Avoid sharp turns that shift seams.
Leave it alone	Do not rake, aerate, dethatch or apply DIY weed killer while the sod is establishing. New sod can be sensitive to stress and herbicides.

FERTILIZER, WEEDS & EXPECTATIONS

FERTILIZER	Do not fertilize immediately unless TurfTide gives you a specific plan. Applying too much or applying at the wrong time can burn or stress new sod. Follow local fertilizer restrictions.
WEEDS	A few weeds may appear as soil is disturbed and the lawn fills in. Avoid spraying new sod without professional guidance. Healthy density is the best long-term weed defense.
COLOR & SEAMS	Temporary color variation and visible seams can be normal. Edges often dry fastest. Consistent moisture and good soil contact help the pieces knit together.

**CALL TURFTIDE
IF YOU NOTICE:**

Corners lifting after the first week • Persistent puddling • Large areas turning gray, blue-green or crispy • Water that does not reach an entire zone • Sod that remains loose after several weeks

YOUR PART MATTERS: New sod is perishable living material. After installation, timely watering, sprinkler coverage, mowing, pet/traffic control and treatment choices are the property owner's responsibility. Weather and site conditions may require adjustments. Contact TurfTide early if something does not look right - waiting can allow damage to become permanent.

**THANK YOU FOR
TRUSTING TURFTIDE**

We truly appreciate your business and the opportunity to help improve your property. Enjoy your new lawn!