2018 Street and Utility Improvement Project Weekly Update

City of Circle Pines

Current Events – Week of August 27 through August 31

- **Phase 1** trees have been planted. **Don't forget to water your trees and follow the sod tips.**
- **Phase 4** sewer and water main are installed on Park Drive West.

Future Events – September 4 through September 7

- **Phase 2 and 3** sod installation will resume. Mailboxes will be installed.
- **Phase 4** temporary water service will be connected to houses on Park Drive East. Water main construction on Park Drive East will begin. Services will be installed on Park Drive West.

Please note: The tentative schedule provided is subject to change due to inclement weather or subcontractor availability.

Tips of the Week

- Please follow the signs and instructions on any notices that are distributed.
- Please use caution around construction equipment and materials. Follow the traffic control signs that are in place on the project and please slow down when driving through the project area.
- Do not disturb the survey stakes.
- Keep off the piles of dirt and stay back from the deep excavation areas.
- Allow 7 days for concrete curb and driveway to cure before driving on them.
- **Sod tips are on the back.**

Project Contacts

Project Construction Observer: Jim Klein, 612-518-8327
Project Manager: Eric Eckman, 763-512-5257
After Hours Emergency Number: 763-427-1212 - Ask for the Centennial Utilities on-call person

If you would like to receive the weekly update via email instead of via mail delivery, please email cityhall@ci.circle-pines.mn.us.

Thank you for your cooperation!

(See back for sod information)

CARING FOR YOUR NEW SOD

Watering

- **The contractor will water the sod for 45 days. Once that time is reached, your sod should be watered at a rate of 2 inches per week in three to four applications. Continue this schedule throughout the summer.**
- Water early in the morning to maximize water being absorbed in your lawn. If watering is done in the evening, grass stays wet all night which increases the risk of disease. Watering during the day can cause scalding and burning of the sod.
- Additional watering is required on steep slopes to promote absorption of the water as it can run off more quickly on steep slopes.
- To prevent water loss, don't water your lawn when it is windy.
- **The City will waive sprinkling restrictions for years 2018 and 2019 on new sod.**

Mowing

- **Sod height for the first months should be between 3 and 4 inches. Mow grass no shorter than 3½ inches** to promote deep roots and lawns that tolerate dry conditions. If the sod height gets much longer than 4 inches, weeds tend to establish a foothold.
- **Set the mower deck at least 3½ inches high or at the highest setting.** In all cases mow in moderation as to the length of the leaf blades cut off during each cutting. A good rule is to not cut more than one-third the height of the grass off each time. The longer leaf blades are needed until the roots are able to grow and get deeper into the soil. As the cutting season continues into late summer, the sod height can be maintained at the 3-inch height goal. If hot and dry weather is encountered, you can adjust both the watering and the cutting height to protect the sod.
- **Don't mow during the heat of the day**, especially when conditions are dry. Newly cut grass loses water quickly.
- **Don't mow new sod with a riding lawn mower.**

Fertilizing

- **Your sod will not need fertilizer until the fall of 2019, prior to the onset of winter.**
- If you fertilize during the heat of the summer, you risk killing the sod. Proper fertilizing promotes deep roots and drought tolerance. Improper fertilizing can have the opposite effect. Don't fertilize dry lawns — high concentrations of nutrients draw moisture out of the soil.

Other Tips

- **Control weeds** to reduce competition for soil moisture. This can be done by hand or with careful use of herbicides.
- **Do not aerate your lawn in 2019** since the roots are still fragile. Aeration can begin in 2020.
- Keep children, foot traffic and equipment (including large lawn mowers) off of the new sod.

Following these steps will restore your lawn to its prior beauty as quickly as possible. It will take a little time and patience, and we thank you for both.