

# Geo Zoysia™ Homeowner's Maintenance



Congratulations on your decision to upgrade your lawn to Geo Zoysia. Below are the proper care and maintenance checklists for each season. For more detailed information, see the best maintenance practices for Geo Zoysia at [SodSolutions.com/Geo](http://SodSolutions.com/Geo). Following these steps will help keep your lawn looking its best.

**Immediately After Installation:** It is imperative to properly grade and level your landscape prior to installation. Failure to do so can compromise the success of your Geo Zoysia lawn. Prepare soil and water thoroughly before sod is placed down. It is essential that turf be watered thoroughly when installed. Soak upon installation and water as needed to keep new sod from drying out. Over watering for an extended period, however, will severely damage the turf, inducing disease and rotting roots. It usually takes 10-14 days during the active growing season for the sod to establish, but may take longer during cooler weather. Proper rooting can be checked by lifting a corner of the new sod piece and noting if "white" roots have connected to the ground. Mow the new sod 10-14 days after installation.

## SEASONAL MAINTENANCE CHECKLIST

- ▶ Have your soil Ph level tested every other year and add the necessary amendments.
  - ▶ Hard clay will need to have its compaction broken up and get permeability into the clay and organic matter.
  - ▶ Pure sand needs help holding nutrition and water so it doesn't percolate through.
  - ▶ Humic acids and liquid biologicals will help amend the soil in both cases.
- ▶ Always read and follow label instruction information before applying any chemical to your lawn.

## Spring

- Following the final freeze of winter, if you have a mature, established Geo lawn, drop your mower a notch and give your Geo Zoysia a "buzz-cut." Make sure to bag up all the material. This will get rid of the brown top layer and any old leaves. Then for the rest of spring and summer keep your Geo lawn mowed between .5 -1.5 inches.
- Apply a fertilizer. A "weed-and-feed" with a pre-emergent herbicide built in is a good idea. A general recommendation would be to use a 1-0-1 ratio variety, like a 15-0-15. This promotes the overall health of the grass.
- Don't over water. In the active growing season, Geo Zoysia needs about one inch of water a week, either from natural rainfall or irrigation. Too much water can cause disease in the lawn.
- Apply fungicide (if needed.) If you have had a disease in your Geo Zoysia in the past or have quite a bit of shade in the yard, you will want to apply a systemic fungicide to prevent future outbreaks.

## Summer

- In early summer, if you feel you need another application is needed, fertilize again with another 1-0-1 ratio fertilizer with a broad-spectrum insecticide built in. This is an optional fertilizer application but apply an insecticide either way.
- When mowing, never remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade with each mow. If you remove more than that, you will stress the grass and it will go brown for a short while. If you go on vacation, you may have to mow a couple of times to get the grass back to its desired height. Wait about five to seven days between each mowing.
- Be careful not to over water the grass. Water for longer periods of time, less frequently and in the early morning hours. Always take rainfall into consideration.

## Fall

- In early fall, apply a low nitrogen fertilizer with a pre-emergent built in. growth for winter. Basically adjust your mower settings to go up one notch.
- Watch for large patch and other turfgrass diseases in the fall and preemptively apply fungicide. This will help the grass enter the colder months in a healthier state. If you have had disease before, you may need multiple applications in the affected areas.
- You will mow less in the cooler months of the fall. Leave your Geo Zoysia lawn slightly higher than normal to encourage deeper root
- Water less. As temperatures drop grasses don't need as much irrigation so adjust your schedule accordingly. Too much watering can lead to a lawn disease.

## Winter

- In late January / early February, apply a low Nitrogen fertilizer with a pre-emergent herbicide built in.
- Maintain your Geo Zoysia lawn, mow and water less in the colder months.