

SECTION 059
SPECIFICATIONS - SEEDING AND SODDING

1.0 Preparing for Sod and Seed Application

Preparation for sod and seed application shall be performed in accordance with the following specifications.

1.1 Soil Preparation

Sod and seed application shall be performed using a layer of worked topsoil of no less than six (6) inches in depth. Seedbed preparation shall not start until all stones, debris, roots, etc. larger than one (1) inch in diameter or length have been removed. As approved by GPSD, the area shall be worked until the topsoil material is aerated and loose.

1.2 Fertilizing

Sod and seed application cannot be started until a commercial grade synthetic, slow-release fertilizer has been applied at the rate of one (1) pound of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet of area to be seeded. The fertilizer shall be delivered to the site in suitable containers that are fully labeled. The nutrient mixture of the fertilizer shall be 11% total nitrogen, 15% total phosphorus and 11% water-soluble potash.

Dry fertilizers shall not be applied during hot, dry weather. Generally, the fertilizer shall be applied during either the early morning hours or later in the afternoon, avoiding the daytime hours corresponding to peak sun intensity and temperature. Dry fertilizers shall not be applied until the area to be fertilized is completely watered. After fertilizer application, the area shall again be sufficiently watered to the point of runoff.

2.0 Seed Application

Seed application shall be performed in accordance with the following specifications. Seed mixtures shall be delivered to the site of the work in unopened bags with the seed analysis label clearly visible. Bags of seed mix shall not have a test date listed on the label older than one (1) year prior to the date of seed application.

2.1 Lawn Seeding

In either grassy areas or where specified by GPSD, the Contractor shall restore disturbances using one or more of the following grass mixes, chosen in accordance with the wishes of the owner of the property in question, the desire to match the existing cover, and to provide the most durable and dense growth. Acceptable lawn seed mixes include the following:

Seed Mix	Manufacturer
Kelly's Athletic Grass Mix	Kelly Seed
Kelly's Landscape Grass Mix	Kelly Seed
Kelly's Shade Place Grass Mix	Kelly Seed
Kelly's Elite Turf Mix	Kelly Seed
Sod Builder Shady Mix	Lifetyme Seed Co.
Pre-Me-Um Mix	Lifetyme Seed Co.
Ebony Green Pro	Lifetyme Seed Co.

2.2 Waterway Seeding

Except where required otherwise by either GPSD or the City of Peoria's Stream Buffer Requirements as expressed within Part III, Article V, of the City of Peoria Ordinance 15739, in waterways, the Contractor shall restore disturbed surfaces using one of the following mixes:

Seed Mix	Manufacturer
Kelly's Waterway Mix	Kelly Seed
Waterway Mix	Lifetyme Seed Co.

2.3 Roadside Seeding

Where specified by GPSD, the Contractor shall restore disturbed areas using one of the following mixes:

Seed Mix	Manufacturer
Roadside Mixture	Kelly Seed
Groz-Fast Mix	Lifetyme Seed Co.

2.4 Application

No seed shall be sown in windy conditions or, in the opinion of GPSD, when soil is either too wet or in improper condition for seeding. Seeding shall be performed within twenty-four (24) hours after soil preparation unless weather conditions prohibit seeding.

Grass seed shall be sown by using a broadcast spreader, a drop spreader or, if the area is small enough, a handheld spreader, and at the rate of eight (8) pounds per 1,000 square feet. Seed application shall be evenly distributed throughout the area sown to provide for a uniformly textured lawn. The seeding equipment shall be so operated so as to ensure a complete coverage of the entire area to be seeded. The seed shall be worked into the soil to a depth to ensure good contact between the seed and soil, but not too deep to prohibit growth.

2.5 Mulching

After the completion of seeding, mulching materials shall be applied using materials consistent with and in a manner detailed in the latest version of the IDOT Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction.

The Contractor shall keep the seeded and mulched areas moist for a period of four (4) weeks from the date of sowing. The applied layer of mulching material shall also be maintained for four (4) weeks after seeding is applied. Watering shall be performed using a fine water spray.

2.6 Reseeding

Washouts or areas that fail to yield a minimum 75% uniform growth over the entire seeded area after 60 days within the growing season shall be regraded, pulverized, reseeded and mulched, in accordance with these specifications until good grass coverage is obtained.

3.0 Sod Application

3.1 Sod Materials

Sod types shall be chosen to best match the existing lawn conditions and withstand the predominant climate conditions. Sod shall be nursery or field grown, certified, and well rooted. Sod shall be cool to the touch, free of unwanted insects, disease, weeds or objectionable plants. The age of the sod shall be such that no tall grasses are matted into the rolled sod. The soil adhered to the sod shall be such that it will not break, crumble or tear during sod application. Sod shall not be matted such that penetration into the soil by water or fertilizers is inhibited. Roots shall be at least ½ inch long and the total thickness of the sod shall be between one (1) and three (3) inches. The color of the sod shall be vibrant green.

Delivered sod shall be moist, but not saturated, and kept moist until applied. Sod shall not have dried out or been cut more than forty-eight (48) hours before application. If application is delayed after delivery, the sod shall be stored in a shady place, unrolled and kept moist until application.

3.2 Application

Sod shall be placed within twenty-four (24) hours of soil preparation and fertilizing. Sod shall be placed on the prepared surface with the edges in close contact and the alternate courses staggered. The edges of the sod rolls shall be staggered upon application such that a continuous seem is not developed between two adjoining rolls. On slopes, the sod shall be placed with the longer dimension parallel to the ground contour. Sod shall be staked on all slopes of two (2) to one (1) or greater with four (4) stakes per square yard.

Within eight (8) hours after application, the applied sod shall be watered with a fine spray such that the soil is kept moist. The soil shall be kept moist for a period of four (4) weeks after sod application with watering performed in the early morning or late afternoon. After application, any cracks or gaps between sod mats shall be filled in with quality topsoil. Within twelve (12) hours of application, the entire area of applied sod shall be leveled using a water-filled roller.

END OF SECTION