

2024 Street and Utility Improvement Project Morristown, Minnesota

Project Update



MORRT 175931

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This letter is being sent to inform you of the progress of construction activity on the above-referenced project.

IF YOU ARE A LANDLORD, PLEASE SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER WITH YOUR RENTERS/TENANTS.

The contractor and I have completed an initial spring walk-through of the project to review warranty items and remaining tasks to be completed. Turf and grading issues have been reviewed and the contractor will be regrading some areas to improve drainage and blend existing yards into newly constructed areas. The contractor will also be exposing manhole covers and putting the final touches on underground structures that were unable to be completed last season. Final seeding will take place once these areas have been graded, and defective concrete will be replaced prior to final paving.

The contractor will be installing manhole covers in the next few weeks that were unable to be installed last fall. This involves removing a small patch of pavement from where the cover is to be installed before being patched. Some newly installed covers will be left elevated from the surrounding pavement surface to match the final bituminous pavement surface once it is installed. Elevated covers will pose a risk to passing traffic until the final pavement surface is installed and traffic control will be in place until this is complete. Covers along Washington Street E between Division Street S and 2nd Street SE and on 2nd Street SE between Washington St E and Chestnut Street E will be installed flush with the pavement and raised during paving.

Lawns and topsoil will also be touched up and graded to improve drainage where needed in the next few weeks. Final seeding and hydro-mulching will also be completed in this timeframe. Just a reminder, please do not apply weed control to any seeded areas until it has been mowed at least four times. Please see the attached handout *Caring for Your Newly Seeded Area* for tips to ensure a successful lawn restoration.

Defective concrete items have been marked for removal and replacement. The contractor plans to begin this work in early June to avoid interference with school activities. The final layer of bituminous pavement will be put on after Dam Days and after the defective concrete has been replaced.

If you have any outstanding issues or concerns that have not been addressed or taken care of to your liking, please contact me at your earliest convenience so I can relay the information to the contractor.

Please remember that schedules can change at a moment's notice because of weather, delays by subcontractors, and other unforeseen events.

Note: Future project updates may be mailed or a digital copy sent if you opt in. To receive e-mailed project updates, please email your name, property address, and email address to Julie Brinkman at jbrinkman@sehinc.com.

Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or City Engineer/Project Manager Brent Kavitz.

Lee Istvanovich, Resident Project Representative

Caring for Your Newly Seeded Area

Please help us establish your new lawn!

Once the turf area has been seeded, care must be taken to ensure the seed germinates and the lawn matures. We ask for your assistance to help ensure that the seed area receives adequate water and proper maintenance. **Keep all traffic (including people and pets) out of the seeded area during the germination and establishment period.**

WATERING

Grass seed needs moisture to germinate. After germination, the new grass seedlings are very tender and will die if they dry out. It is very important to water any seeded area until the grass is well established. Lightly water the grass seed during germination to avoid washing away the seed. Once the seed has sprouted, it needs about one inch of water per week. This should be applied in three or four applications.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE

Once the turf begins to thicken and is being mowed, watering can continue at about one inch per week. Be sure to water deeply and infrequently. Frequent light watering causes the grass to grow shallow roots and sets your lawn up for trouble in hot weather. Avoid watering between 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., the hottest part of the day. It is best to water between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.; there's less wind, less hot sun, and your lawn has a full day to dry. Watering at night invites mildew and fungus, but if you can't water in the morning and must water in the evening, aim for around 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

During dry periods you must remember to give the young lawn a little extra water than you would your established lawn and let it grow a little longer before mowing. Fertilize as described below if the grass begins to yellow.

MOWING

Your new seed should not be mowed until either the grass lays over and mats down when wetted or the grass goes to seed. It may take longer than 30 days for these conditions to occur. Prior to mowing, set the mower deck at the highest setting and cut the new grass with this setting for the remainder of the year. ***Your new lawn will die if you cut it too short or during hot weather.***

FERTILIZING

Fertilizer may be needed if the grass begins to yellow. Phosphorous-free fertilizer is required on mature lawns. We recommend a slow-release fertilizer such as 10-0-10 or 22-0-10. Phosphorous type fertilizers such as 10-10-10 may be used on new lawns but should be avoided if the area drains to the storm sewer, ponds, lakes or wetlands.

WEEDS

It happens. Weeds pop among newly planted grass. That's because dormant weed seeds are always present in the soil, and they're waiting to sprout when they get a chance. A good rule of thumb is to wait until you've mowed your new grass at least four times before you treat the weeds with a weed-control product. As always, remember to read the product label for specific information related to the weed-control product you are using.

If you have any questions or problems with your lawn, please call Lee Istvanovich, Resident Project Representative, at 507.676.2202.

Your efforts should result in a healthy, vigorous lawn. We appreciate your assistance.