

Compacted Soil is Bad: The soil surface needs to be loose enough that when you stand on the soil it will leave a footprint around 1/4" to 1/2" deep.

Getting Rid of Old Grass and Weeds: Kill out the grass and weeds that are now there to help clean up the weeds in the soils. Remember after tilling to allow extra time for the native seed bank to germinate... so you can treat them before we seed.

Tilling the Ground: Do you need to remove the grass entirely or just till under? If you have an excessively thick mat of grass, it may be better to remove unless you are planning on grading some additional topsoil over it. The grass can be clumpy when tilled. Topsoil over the new lawn area can smooth this out if needed.

Soil Amendments/Organic Matter: Most soils are lacking in organic matter. This organic material is what helps feed the biology in the system. You WANT beneficial biology working for you as much as possible... it makes growing things a lot easier.

Grading for Drainage, Contour, Definition and Functionality: Keep the grade draining away from key spots such as patios, ornamental ponds, house etc.

Water Requirements and Scheduling: Automated irrigation systems are best. You can set up the controller for frequent watering while establishing a new lawn. If you do not have an irrigation system (and are not putting one in), then check out some of the new hose bib controllers on the market.

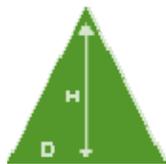
Ongoing Maintenance Program: Feed the soil and you feed the lawn. Books have been written about keeping your mower blades sharp, aerating the soils, testing the soil for nutrients and on and on. The basics are to mow no more than a 1/3 of the blade at a time, infrequent but deep watering as the grass plants mature and promoting a healthy growing medium.

Calculating Square Footage

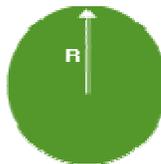
When ordering Hydroseed you will need to know how many square feet you have. Below are some helpful hints on how to calculate it.



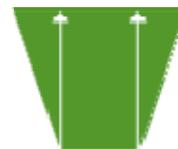
Square or Rectangle:
multiply the width times the length. (Area=Length x Width)



Triangle: multiply the two longest sides together, and then divide by 2. (Area=B x H/2)



Circle: multiply the two longest sides together, and then divide by 2. (Area=B x H/2)



Odd Shape: roughly divide the area into squares, triangles, etc. Calculate each separate piece and add them together.