

2023 Street and Utility Improvement Project
New Prague, Minnesota

Project Update



NEWPR 167774

Project Contacts

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

Bituminous placement is complete for the season. Note that the final placement of blacktop will not be placed until June of 2024. Intersecting streets will be temporarily ramped until then but will still have a noticeable bump when driving over them. Please drive over these areas with caution.

The contractor is working on remaining restoration of the project. After topsoil is placed, seed is spread and covered with hydromulch. The contractor will be maintaining these turf areas until they've been established, likely for the remainder of the current growing season. This will include regular watering to supplement normal rain. Though the contractor will provide this maintenance, your help will assist in getting these areas to grow. A flyer entitled Caring for Your Newly Seeded Area is attached to this Update. Some tips include:

- Keep all traffic, including people and pets, out of the newly seeded areas.
- Provide additional watering to your lawn.
- Refrain from mowing newly seeded areas. It will be at least 30 days before these areas will be ready for their first mowing.

As we work toward substantial completion of the project, the project will be walked through and a punch list assembled. There will still be some miscellaneous work in the project area as those items are addressed. The contractor will start work on the trails in Greenway Park soon. This work will require some temporary closures of Rising Moon alley on the west side of the park to accommodate grading and paving. A date has not yet been set for when this work will start as it requires coordination with paving subcontractors.

This will be the final project update for the season until work resumes in 2024. Thank you for your patience and cooperation this year. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or Project Manager Chris Knutson.

To receive project updates, please email your name, property address, and email address to Julie Brinkman at jbrinkman@sehinc.com.

OR

Receive Notices by Text Message by texting **NP2023** to the number **833.709.1208**.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me or City Engineer/Project Manager Chris Knutson.

John Voigt, Resident Project Representative
507.380.1157



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 Resident Project Representative John Voigt (507.380.1157).

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