

SECTION 329230 SODDING

PART 1 - GENERAL

1.1 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- A. Drawings and general provisions of the Contract, including General and Supplementary Conditions and Division 01 Specification Sections, apply to this Section.

1.2 SUMMARY

- A. Section Includes:

- 1. Sodding of enclosure areas as shown on drawings.

- B. Related Sections

Section 32 91 19 – Topsoil

Section 32 93 00 – Planting

1.3 DEFINITIONS

- A. Finish Grade: Elevation of finished surface of planting soil.
- B. Topsoil: Native or imported topsoil, manufactured topsoil, or surface soil modified to become topsoil; mixed with soil amendments.
- C. Subgrade: Surface or elevation of subsoil remaining after completing excavation, or top surface of a fill or backfill immediately beneath planting soil.

1.4 SUBMITTALS

- A. Product Data: For each type of product indicated.
- B. Certification of Grass Sod: From sod vendor for each grass-seed monostand or mixture stating the botanical and common name and percentage by weight of each species and variety, and percentage of purity, germination, and weed seed. Include the year of production and date of cutting as stated by the Maryland Department of Agriculture
- C. Product Certificate BY Maryland Department of Agriculture
- D. Qualification Data: For landscape Installer.
- E. Planting Schedule: Indicating anticipated planting dates for each type of planting.
- F. Maintenance Instructions: Recommended procedures to be established by Owner for maintenance of sod until acceptance of substantial completion.

1.5 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Installer Qualifications: A qualified landscape installer whose work has resulted in successful sod establishment.
 - 1. Installer's Field Supervision: Require Installer to maintain an experienced English-speaking full-time supervisor on Project site when planting is in progress.
- B. Topsoil Analysis: See Division 32 Section "Topsoiling" for requirements regarding topsoil testing and analysis. Additionally, for topsoil intended for sod areas:
 - 1. Report on suitability of topsoil for sod growth. State recommended quantities of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash nutrients and soil amendments to be added to produce satisfactory topsoil.
- C. Certification of each seed mixture for turfgrass sod, identifying source, including name and telephone number of suppliers.
- D. Preinstallation Conference: Conduct conference at Project site to comply with requirements in Division 1 Section "Project Management and Coordination."

1.6 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

- A. Sod: Harvest, deliver, store, and handle sod according to requirements in TPI's "Specifications for Turfgrass Sod Materials" and "Specifications for Turfgrass Sod Transplanting and Installation" in its "Guideline Specifications to Turfgrass Sodding."

1.7 SCHEDULING

- A. Sodding Restrictions: Sod installation must occur during one of the following periods. Coordinate planting periods with maintenance periods to provide required maintenance from date of Substantial Completion.
 - 1. Spring planting: April 1 – May 31 – confirm 3 consecutive days of soil temperatures between 50 and 65 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - 2. Fall planting: August 15 – November 15
- B. Weather Limitations: Proceed with sodding only when existing and forecasted weather conditions permit.

1.8 SOD MAINTENANCE

- A. Begin maintenance immediately after each area is planted and continue until acceptable sod is established, but for not less than the following periods:
 - 1. Sodded Areas: 30 days from date of Final Acceptance.
- B. Maintain and establish sod by watering, fertilizing, weeding, trimming, replanting, and other operations. Roll, regrade, and replant bare or eroded areas to produce a uniformly smooth sod.

- C. Watering: Provide and maintain temporary piping, hoses, and sod-watering equipment to convey water from sources and to keep sod uniformly moist to a depth of 4 inches (100 mm).
 - 1. Schedule watering to prevent wilting, puddling, erosion, and displacement. Lay out temporary watering system to avoid walking over muddy or newly planted areas.
 - 2. Water sod at a minimum rate of 1 inch (25 mm) per week.

PART 2 - PRODUCTS

2.1 TURFGRASS SOD

- A. Turfgrass Sod: Certified Number 1 Quality/Premium, including limitations on thatch, weeds, diseases, nematodes, and insects, complying with TPI's "Specifications for Turfgrass Sod Materials" in its "Guideline Specifications to Turfgrass Sodding." Furnish viable sod of uniform density, color, and texture, strongly rooted, and capable of vigorous growth and development when planted.

Certification sod from Maryland Department of Agriculture

- B. Turfgrass Species: Sod of grass species as follows, with not less than 95 percent germination, not less than 95 percent pure seed, not less than 85 percent pure seed, and not more than 0.5 percent weed seed:

Sod Mix Proportioned by weight as follows:

- a. 25 percent Sky Kentucky Bluegrass.
- b. 25 percent Starr Bluegrass
- c. 25 percent Bluenote Kentucky Bluegrass
- d. 25 percent Blue Coat Kentucky Bluegrass.

2.2 TOPSOIL, SOIL AMENDMENTS, SOIL MEDIA

- A. Refer to Division 32 Section "Topsoil".

PART 3 - EXECUTION

3.1 EXAMINATION

- A. Examine areas to receive sod for compliance with requirements and other conditions affecting performance. Proceed with installation only after unsatisfactory conditions have been corrected.

3.2 PREPARATION

- A. Protect structures, utilities, sidewalks, pavements, and other facilities, trees, shrubs, and plantings from damage caused by planting operations.
- B. Provide erosion-control measures to prevent erosion or displacement of soils and discharge of soil-bearing water runoff or airborne dust to adjacent properties and walkways.

C. Subsoil Preparation

1. Prepare sub-soil to eliminate uneven areas and low spots. Maintain lines, levels, profiles and contours. Make changes in grade gradual and blend slopes into level areas. Remove foreign materials, stones, weeds and undesirable plants and their roots.
2. Remove contaminated sub-soil and rocks and debris larger than 2".
3. Scarify subsoil with a subsoiler to depth as shown on the drawings where topsoil is to be placed. Repeat cultivation in areas where equipment, used for hauling and spreading topsoil, has compacted sub-soil prior to placement of topsoil.

D. Final Grade Preparation

1. Topsoil Addition. Spread topsoil in areas as needed to meet grade over area to be seeded.
2. Place topsoil during dry weather and on dry unfrozen sub-grade.
3. Power rake area to remove vegetative matter, stones, and foreign, non-organic material over ½" inch diameter.
4. Fine grade topsoil to eliminate rough, low or soft areas, and to ensure positive drainage. Maintain profiles and contour of sub-grade.
5. Manually spread topsoil close to plant materials and buildings to prevent damage.
6. Tolerances: Top of topsoil plus or minus ½" inch.

3.4 FERTILIZERS

- A. Prior to laying sod, apply a starter fertilizer evenly at the rate of 1 c.y./1000 sq. ft. or otherwise as required by the results of the soil tests into the top 2 inches of soil by cross disking or the other appropriate method.

3.3 SODDING

- A. Lay sod within 24 hours of harvesting. Do not lay sod if dormant or if ground is frozen or muddy.
- B. Lay sod to form a solid mass with tightly fitted joints. Butt ends and sides of sod; do not stretch or overlap. Stagger sod strips or pads to offset joints in adjacent courses. Avoid damage to subgrade or sod during installation. Tamp and roll lightly to ensure contact with subgrade, eliminate air pockets, and form a smooth surface. Work sifted soil or fine sand into minor cracks between pieces of sod; remove excess to avoid smothering sod and adjacent grass.
- C. Lay sod across angle of slopes exceeding 1:3.
- D. Anchor sod on slopes exceeding 1:6 with wood pegs (NO STEEL STAPLES) spaced as recommended by sod grower but not less than 2 anchors per sod strip to prevent slippage.
- E. Saturate sod with fine water spray within two hours of planting. During first week, water daily or more frequently as necessary to maintain moist soil to a minimum depth of 1-1/2 inches below sod.

3.5 SATISFACTORY SOD

- A. Satisfactory Sodded Areas: At end of maintenance period, a healthy, well-rooted, even-colored, viable sod has been established, free of weeds, open joints, bare areas, and surface irregularities, with coverage exceeding 90 percent over any 10 sq. ft. and bare spots not exceeding 5 by 5 inches.

- B. Replace sod that does not comply with requirements and continue maintenance until sod is satisfactory.

3.6 CLEANUP AND PROTECTION

- A. Promptly remove soil and debris created by sod work from paved areas. Clean wheels of vehicles before leaving site to avoid tracking soil onto roads, walks, or other paved areas.
- B. Erect barricades and warning signs as required to protect newly planted areas from traffic. Maintain barricades throughout maintenance period and remove after sod is established.
- C. Remove erosion-control measures and barricades after grass establishment period.

END OF SECTION 329230

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