



Native Preservation™ – Streetscape – Redding, CA

NON-MOWED NON-IRRIGATED AREAS

Native grasses control soil erosion, reduce dust, control ground temperatures, reduce noise and recharge ground water. Properly maintained sod is one of the most cost effective and environmentally beneficial products in urban development.

Bio-Swales / Retention Basins / Riparian Restoration

NON-MOWED / NON-IRRIGATED AREAS

Best described by Ed Zuckerman, President and CEO of Delta Bluegrass Company,
“You need to put on a new pair of glasses when you look at California Native Sod. This is not the traditional lawn of our childhood. We are entering a new era where the complex beauty of native grasses needs to be appreciated”

In non-irrigated applications most native sod blends will establish and actively grow during the wet season. The specially selected combination of native grasses found in our sod will go dormant during the summer becoming golden summer fields and then green up in the fall to become beautiful cool season meadows. Temporary or supplemental irrigation is required during the establishment period.

STEPS FOR ESTABLISHMENT IN NON-MOWED / NON-IRRIGATED AREAS

- **SOIL PREPARATION:** Rototill the soil and add necessary amendments. Till into soil to a minimum depth of 4 to 6 inches or deeper. This will allow air and water to penetrate the root zone.
- **GRADING AND ROLLING:** Clear the sod surface of all debris, including dirt clods, rocks and root segments. Rake and level the area, making sure that the soil is about 1” below the level of sidewalks, patios and hard surfaces
- **FERTILIZING AND APPLICATION OF SOD:** Before laying sod, apply Delta Bluegrass Company’s Bolero™ Sod & Seed Starter Fertilizer at a rate of 6 pounds per 1,000 square feet. This gives the new grass food to nourish it in the first few weeks of establishment. Sod can now be laid directly on the fertilized ground. Start from the back of your property line to the front along the longest straight line boundary. Work away from the line so you are not stepping on the fresh sod. Stagger sod slabs to offset seams. Make sure each piece of sod has good contact with the soil, because air pockets prevent proper rooting. If laying sod on a steep slope, use wooden pegs or sod staples to temporarily keep the sod in place. Be sure to roll sod horizontally to prevent ruts created by water rolling down the slope or slight incline of your surface.

- **TEMPORARY IRRIGATION:** The sod must develop an adequate root system and store enough carbohydrate reserves to enter dormancy and survive the dry summer months. Temporary or supplemental irrigation during the establishment period is required to ensure a strong root system. Allow natural rainfall to supply necessary moisture and cool winter conditions to sustain green sod.
- **MOWING:** In non-maintained areas, mowing is optional. Most often, areas will be trimmed only one or two times per year. This is usually in the mid and late spring to remove the florets or seed heads. A string trimmer or weed eater is the most commonly use landscape tool used to cut the grass to the preferred height. **NEVER** remove more than 1/3 of the leaf blade with any single mow cycle.
- **FERTILIZATION:** Native sod requires far less fertilizer than conventional turf. Fertilize two to three times per year in the appropriate season for the type of sod used. Generally, the first application is in early spring, February or early March. In cool coastal and mountain areas, a late spring application can be made with the last rainfall. This will help the plant to store up necessary nutrients before entering summer dormancy. After the first rainfall arrives and temperatures drop, apply Bolero™ Lawn Food fertilizer and allow rain to water fertilizer into grass. This will help promote to green up the grass and bring it out of summer dormancy.



Native Biofiltration™ - Cosumnes Elementary School – Sloughouse, CA

Installed in August of 2010, temporary irrigation was used during the establishment period and then removed. The area remained green throughout the cool season and here in late July 2011 it has become a dormant golden summer meadow.