



TOP TEN REASONS NOT TO OVERSEED WITH COOL SEASON GRASSES IN ALLEN!

10. **SAVE TIME**- No short mowing (scalping) the Bermuda to prepare the seedbed, no mowing all winter.
9. **SAVE WATER**- Establishing rye grass (or other cool season grass) seed to grow requires watering three times a day or more for the first month after seeding. By not overseeding, over 8,000 gallons of water can be saved for every 1,000 square feet of grass each season.
8. **SAVE MONEY**- Save on the cost of seed, the labor for installation, water costs all winter, and gasoline for mowing! Dormant Bermuda requires irrigation watering only in cases of **no precipitation** within the months of late November, December, January, February, and sometimes the entire month of March and April!
7. **SAVE LANDFILL SPACE**- Scalping Bermuda grass to prepare the seedbed for rye grass (or other cool season grass) creates a mountain of grass waste for the landfills. Rye grass clippings can create additional waste all winter and spring.
6. **SAVE THE AIR**- Gasoline mowers and other lawn equipment contribute to our air pollution problems, and the scalping process releases dust and other particles into the air.
5. **PRESERVE WATER QUALITY**- More fertilizers and pesticides will be needed during the year when rye grass is planted. A tremendous amount of our water pollution comes from runoff of these products from urban landscapes.
4. **DECREASE NOISE POLLUTION**- Landscape power equipment has become a major source of background noise in many neighborhoods. Dormant grass may only need a clean-up mow a couple of times during the winter months, whereas cool season grass requires weekly or every 10 days mowing.
3. **SAVE FRUSTRATION**- When cultivating a cool season lawn in our climate there can be problems with seed establishment (due to weather conditions) and maintenance all winter. The transition period to go back to warm season grass can sometimes be a nightmare for the average homeowner!
2. **GIVE YOUR BERMUDA A BREAK**- Overseeding can be stressful for your Bermuda grass. In the fall, the practice of scalping the summer grass before dormancy doesn't allow for adequate storage of energy in the roots. In the spring, the rye competes with Bermuda and prolongs dormancy period, or shades it to the point that it is very weak. If we have very hot and dry periods in early summer, Bermuda sometimes never recovers.

And the # 1 Reason Not to Overseed with Cool Season Grasses...

1. **IT IS A VIOLATION OF CITY ORDINANCE NO. 2760-8-08**- The City of Allen passed the Water Conservation Ordinance on August 12, 2008 and it became effective September 1, 2008. Along with other measures to conserve water, a prohibition on planting/watering rye grass (or other cool season grasses) was implemented. This measure was taken as a way to conserve our precious water resource in a way that will have the least impact on our citizens. The State of Texas has given guidelines to water suppliers and municipalities to reduce consumption to reach a goal of 140 gallons per capita per day. The City must implement measures that may cause some lifestyle changes in order to reach this goal.