## Green Infrastructure Project

# Grass Reinforcement Mesh

### Can't stand mud?

A polyethylene grid placed directly on grass and secured with metal U-Pins or plastic pegs helps stabilize the grass so that it can handle more traffic without damage.





Grass reinforcement mesh is a thick plastic mesh that is installed directly onto existing grass to protect, reinforce and stabilize the grass against damage caused by traffic (pedestrians and vehicles.) Grass protection mesh protects grass that is prone to wear, rutting and muddy surfaces. The mesh reinforces the grass for vehicle traffic (car and trucks) or for pedestrian paths and walkways.

#### **Cold Climate Considerations:**

Most varieties of this grass mesh can withstand temperatures below -50 F. You may shovel snow off the mesh but do not use a snow plow.

#### **Cost Estimate:**

About \$1.25 per square foot.

#### **Time Estimate:**

 The project will take about six hours depending on the size of the area.

#### **Materials:**

- ☐ Grass reinforcement mesh
- ☐ Metal U-Pins
- ☐ Grass seed (if starting a new lawn)

#### **Pros:**

- Reduces water runoff.
- Increases groundwater infiltration.
- Can be used to control mud problems.
- Aesthetically pleasing.
- Increases property value.
- Homeowner can install without assistance.
- No excavation or soil removal is required.

#### **Tools:**

- ☐ Lawn mower
- ☐ Hammer
- ☐ Seed Spreader

#### Cons:

- May not be able to use snow plows over the mesh.
- Have to buy a minimum amount.



#### Steps:

- 1. Mow the grass on an established lawn. For a newly sown area the only preparation is to make sure the soil is well consolidated. The area can be sown before or after the mesh is in place.
- 2. Unroll the mesh over the selected area and let it stand for at least one hour to help it flatten out.
- 3. Secure the mesh to the ground with metal U –Pins:
  - a. Secure U-Pins along the middle of the mesh every three to six feet.
  - b. Make sure to secure the perimeter of the mesh every twelve to twenty inches with the metal U -Pins.
  - c. To join two sections of mesh, secure the two ends together with the metal U –Pins every twenty inches along the seam.
- 4. Do not use the area until the grass has grown through the mesh. This can take up to four weeks.
- 5. Once the grass is long enough to mow, set the mower blades at a relatively high setting to prevent the blade from cutting the mesh. Once the grass has completely grown around the mesh, the grass can be cut normally.

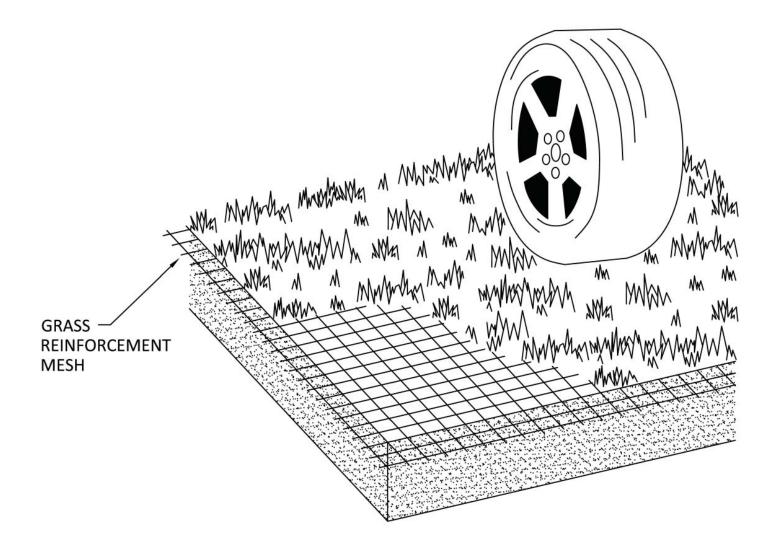
#### **Maintenance:**

- Mow the grass as it grows up around the mesh.
- Monitor integrity of plastic after winter, replace sections if necessary.





Ground leveled, with mesh layed out prior to pinning.









For more information about this and other Green Infrastructure Projects please visit: **www.fairbanksgig.com** 

#### **Sources:**

Boddingtons Ltd, GrassProtecta® Grass Reinforcement Protection Mesh www.grass-reinforcement.com Polar Supply 2134 Texaco Street, Unit A Fairbanks, Alaska 99701 907-452-4743 http://www.polarsupply.com





