

General Maintenance of Your Landscape

Weeding is something that needs done throughout the whole season. Watering is also important especially if you have new plants installed. Thoroughly and infrequently, penetrating the soil a minimum of four inches is ideal. BE CAREFUL NOT TO OVERWATER! Edge the garden as needed.

SPRING

- * Remove winter protection when chance of snow is gone or temperatures reach double digits (mid-late april)
- * Prune any dead, diseased or broken branches from shrubs and trees.
- * Prune summer flowering shrubs for shape, to promote flowering and ensure healthy growth. Evergreen shrubs are best pruned in late May. Shrubs with out any significant flowers can be pruned at any time.
- * Cut back dead stems from perennials
- * Cut back tall grasses to 8 inches from the ground. On short grasses like fescue and blue oat grass comb out the dead and snip ends that are brown looking
- * Divide perennials that are 4-5 years old that need rejuvenating to keep there size reduced, the centre has died out or it is no longer flowering like it use to
- * Touch up MULCH around plants. When mulching you want to keep the mulch an inch or two away from the crown or base of the plant to reduce plant rot, disease and pests. If you have stone mulch you may need to pull it away from plants as they grow. Mulch helps retain moisture, reduces weeds and maintains soil temperature.
- * Fertilize by mixing in compost around plants. If that isn't possible fertilize with an all purpose fertilizer under the drip line. BONEMEAL is also good to apply in the spring. This helps fertilize new growth, improves immune system of plant and helps root growth. Test it in an area first because it attracts animals.
- * Remove yellowing foliage from spring bulbs

SUMMER

- * Prune Spring flowering shrubs after they are finished flowering.
- * Prune out reverted shoots on variegated shrubs.
- * Dead head spent flowers if required for aesthetics.
- * Check periodically for insects, pests and diseases.
- * Water new plants once a week or once every two weeks to moisten soil to a foot deep. BE CAREFUL NOT TO OVERWATER!

FALL

- * Clean up fallen leaves
- * Plant spring bulbs
- * After the first few frosts clean up perennial by cutting them back to the ground 2-3 inches
- * This is also a good time to divide perennials
- * Winterize the landscape. See the winterizing sheet.
- * Make sure everything is well watered before freeze up

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