

LANDSCAPE GENERAL CARE INFORMATION

Listed below is some basic plant care for your landscape. It is general in nature, however, it is enough to ensure that your lawn and landscape will be kept in good shape through its existence. All suggested items are not necessary, but recommended if you want to maintain a healthy landscape

SPRING

- Cut back ornamental grasses
- Cut back any perennials not done in the fall
- Fertilize spring flowering bulbs as green growth emerges
- Fertilize plant material with a well-balanced fertilizer (ex 12-12-12)
- Divide any summer or fall blooming perennials as needed – mums, hostas, rudbeckia, etc.
- Keep landscape beds free of weeds
- Apply pre-emergent weed control (Preen) to landscape beds
- Install mulch to landscape beds
- Water landscape a minimum 1" water per week. This is generally a good soaking 1-2 times per week with a hose or sprinkler system
- Prune back any evergreen or non-flowering deciduous shrubs
- Trim up any low branches on trees if needed, there is no need for pruning paint
- Inspect trees and shrubs for insects or disease, apply insecticide or fungicide as needed
- Hydrangea, Dogwoods, Rhododendrons, or Azaleas would benefit from an application of fertilizer made for acid-loving plants, such as Miracid.
- Prune Roses as the new growth appears (April) and begin fertilizing once a month until August with a well-balanced rose food
- Install spring annuals and perennials in early May after the soil warms.
- Deadhead all annuals and perennials on a routine basis

SUMMER

- Keep landscape beds free of weeds
- Apply second application of weed control (Preen)
- In early summer trim back any spring flowering shrubs
- During the heat of summer your landscape may require at least 3" of water per week split into two or three applications. Check newly planted landscapes more often for stress during this time
- Inspect trees and shrubs for insects or disease, apply insecticide or fungicide as needed
- Deadhead all annuals and perennials on a routine basis
- In late summer, dig and divide any iris or daylilies

FALL

- Apply third application of weed control (Preen)
- Keep landscape beds free of weeds
- Divide any spring blooming perennials as needed – peonies, daisies, poppies, daffodils
- Apply second application of well-balanced fertilizer to shrubs and landscape beds
- Install fall mums or pansies if desired
- Prune any summer flowering shrubs
- After the first freeze, cut back perennials, mulch tender plants (roses, holly, hydrangeas, azaleas) and any newly planted shrub or perennial
- Water landscape minimum 1" water per week
- Deep root feed large trees and shrubs
- Install spring flowering bulbs before the end of November
- Remove stakes from any trees that have been planted for 1 year or longer

Everything you need to keep your landscape healthy is available at your local hardware store or garden center, or we, at Summit Lawn and Landscape can design a maintenance package for your specific needs with any or all of the above recommendations.

