

Seasonal Landscape Care Guide

SPRING

General Season Tips

- Begin feeding bulbs with liquid fertilizer as they emerge
- Remove dead leaves from hostas
- Prune summer-flowering shrubs in early spring before new growth, since they usually bloom on new wood
- Evergreens that grow through the season can be pruned at any time but late in the season
- Apply fresh mulch around trees and shrubs for weed control as soon as the soil warms up

April

- Divide and replant overgrown perennials
- Prune hedges and summer-flowering shrubs, check for snow damage and remove broken branches
- Remove tree wrap from trees as snow melts
- Fertilize to promote healthy growth

May

- Protect gardens from deer browsing
- Remove accumulated leaves and debris from underneath evergreens and shrubs
- Prune forsythia, azaleas, and lilac after they have flowered (all spring flowering shrubs should be pruned right after flowering)
- Make sure freshly planted trees and shrubs are watered on a weekly basis, especially during dry periods, continue throughout the season
- Prune mugho pine when new growth is fully grown and soft

SUMMER

General Season Tips

- Deadheading (removing faded flowers and seed heads) directs a plant's energy to flowering rather than producing seeds
- Fertilizers are best applied to azaleas and rhododendrons in spring and early summer; apply a fertilizer for acid loving plants
- Apply a slow-release fertilizer in mid summer to provide good plant performance until frost

June

- Stake larger perennials such as delphinium
- Tie climbing roses to trellises
- Continue weeding
- Prune and shape new growth on arborvitae, juniper, and yews
- Trim evergreens and hedges
- Pines, spruce, and fir should be pruned in early to mid June

July

- Remove spring bulb foliage as it browns
- Trim maple trees
- Continue to water young trees and shrubs weekly

August

- Deadhead perennials and annuals
- Complete evergreen pruning by the end of the month

FALL

General Season Tips

- Fall installation gives plants time to develop a strong root system
- Cut perennials back to the ground after a hard frost
- Leave ornamental grasses for winter interest

September

- Plant spring flowering bulbs and work bone meal into the bottom of the planting holes for better growth
- Continue to water young trees and shrubs
- Seeding of bare spots and lean areas should happen before the 15th of September

October

- Remove dead annuals
- Wrap young thin barked trees to protect against problems with animals and sunscald
- Cover tender roses before temperatures dip below 25 degrees

November

- Adequately water all the trees, shrubs, and evergreens (especially new plantings) in your landscape just before the ground becomes frozen

WINTER

General Season Tips

- Oaks, honey locusts, crabapple, pears, mountain ash and hawthorn are best pruned in winter months
- Keep evergreens and shrubs free of heavy snow