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"Landscape Design~Construction~Property Management Since 1985!"

Your July "Garden Tips" When Water Is King!

Summer months can be tricky: hot spells followed by quick rains; or just hot and dry. We never really know in advance, and must be alert. Believe it or not, weather patterns do repeat and that can give us clues of what to expect, and what to prepare for. We'd love to be on site all the time, but that's not possible economically. So we ask you to be another set of eyes, and to call us if you suspect something is amiss within your beautiful landscape.



Professional Care All the more important now!

Our objective: to nurture a sustainable landscape that is healthy, therefore beautiful, and to do it economically as the result of our extensive experience.

Often summer is a time for vacationing away from your home. This is the same time period when your landscape will be under 'attack' with more insect activity and disease outbreaks because of hot, dry weather conditions.

Our suggestion, therefore, is to have your landscape checked for present or potential problems, arrange for watering, or have your sprinkler system checked for full coverage.

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Our Best Advice for Your Landscape Now

Mitigating environmental stress in your trees, turf and plants will go a long way towards minimizing expense, and maximizing beauty.

Measuring water output for each area of your landscape, mulching shrubbery beds and underneath trees, and providing judicious insect and disease control, all lay the foundation for a healthy landscape at a lesser cost for you.

During the summer months, watering practices are of immediate importance. Most summers are hot and dry; only a few are mild with adequate rains. Hot weather with extra rainfall and humidity fosters disease.

Your turf exhibits water-related stress quickly by browning; often, also due to disease, insects or grubs. During really hot days, your lawn will appreciate a quick shower midday to reduce heat stress, and your lawn NEVER wants an early evening watering which will principally foster fungus growth and resultant damage. Early morning watering is best.

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EMPHASIS NOTE: our constant emphasis on watering adequately and reliably right from the time when rain becomes less abundant in late May/early June, is this:

By sustaining a hydrated and oxygenated soil, microorganisms, worms, and plant roots stay alive, keeping the soil loose.

The result is a healthier landscape with less need for rescue chemistry, turf repair and potential plant replacement.



There is no substitute for reliable watering practices to sustain your landscape beautifully

July Gardening Notes

Rhododendrons should, ideally, have old dried-up blossoms removed.



Holes in Hosta

and other leafy perennials, are usually caused by beetles and slugs. Slugs can be eradicated by using diatomaceous earth, or beer in a dish.



Trimming Shrubberty should be finished up soon.



Check Your Sprinkler System for Broken Heads that will waste water and also impact the health of your turf, trees, flowers and shrubberty.

Brown Turf: could be lack of enough water; chinch bugs; any number of fungi; grubs; *shade-loving grass in full sun.*



Our Best Advice for Your Landscape Now

Shrubberty requires about one inch of water each week under reasonable summer temperatures; maybe a bit more if it is really hot.

Mulching generally reduces the amount of water that must be supplied, reducing water costs.



Freshly Mulched Beds

Trees generally scavenge enough water because of their extensive root systems. But, if the tree is planted street-side, heat reflections from the pavement desiccate leaves, and water uptake from the root system is restricted, further stressing the tree.

These trees, and others, may need supplemental watering during the summer. You'll know when; when the leaves become dry, and some will be falling off.

In this case, place your water hose nozzle in at least three different positions under the tree leaf canopy, and let water dribble for several hours in each spot. Potentially do this weekly for as long as excess heat and drought continue.



Street Trees Often Need Extra Watering

Pruning for Health's Sake

Most trees are prone to growing excess branches. This puts a strain on the root system to absorb adequate moisture and nutrients for optimum tree health.

To relieve stress on the whole tree, therefore, pruning must be an ongoing procedure to keep a balance between the size and ability of the root system, and the needs of the entire tree.



Prune for Balance

SUMMER STAGING

The great thing about gardening is that one can create enhancements all season long!

Here Are Just Three Ideas To Be Enjoyed At Your Home



The sound of moving water always is refreshing. Any kind of water feature will be a welcome addition to your outdoor life.



You can quickly brighten your landscape anytime during the season simply by assembling containers of flowering and foliar plants.

