

7/29/2012

Lawn:

- Japanese beetle grubs are or will be hatching in your lawn soon. These grubs feed on grass roots and will turn into Japanese Beetles next year. Lawns that are irrigated and in the sun will be most affected. Prevent grubs this year by applying [Greenlight Grub Control with Arena](#) now if not already done.
- Only mow the lawn when rain is in the forecast, after the lawn has been rained on, or after the lawn has been watered. Mow the lawn to 3 1/2" to 4" tall. Remember to sharpen your lawn mower blades when the blades are dull.
- Stay off the lawn on hot, dry, summer days. Water the lawn only in the morning to prevent lawn diseases.
- When a lawn or newly sodded grass is watered a lot without being fed, the grass' color will turn pale green then yellow then brown. To fix this, use [Turf Trust](#). The more you water, the more the lawn will need fertilizer to keep the lawn healthy and green.
- Only water your lawn in the morning. It is better to water your lawn for a longer period of time in the morning a one time a week, than for shorter periods of time every day of the week. However, if you already have a watering schedule, do not change the watering schedule until next year. Be careful not to overwater. Overwatering can cause diseases like pythium or brown patch.

Trees and Shrubs:

- If you notice any dandruff like white deposits on the leaves and stems of Euonymus or Bittersweet, this could mean that these plants are infected with Euonymus scale. To treat this, use [Bonide Annual Tree and Shrub Insect Control](#).
- When a Crepe Myrtle is not yet blooming and is planted in full sun, it will likely bloom later, i.e. August. Newer, hybrid Crepe Myrtles tend to bloom earlier than older non-hybrid Crepe Myrtles, i.e. Water Mellon Red Crepe Myrtles. Some Crepe Myrtles bloom very early; whereas, other bloom late. The blooming season for Crepe Myrtles is almost three months long among the various varieties.

Flowers:

- German iris' can be divided and replanted in newly fertilized beds now. Iris borers can be manually removed, if present, when tubers are divided.
- Iris beds, that have not been worked over, can be fed with [Plant Trust Vegetable and Flower Fertilizer](#). Also, Iris borders can be dealt with by using [Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench](#).
- Delphinium can be cut to 1/2 size and fed with [Plant Trust flower food](#). This will allow for a second set of flowers in late August or September.

- Lycoris (surprise lilies) will be showing off now or blooming soon. The best bloomer is pink. Lycoris bulbs for fall will soon be for sale. Check your favorite garden center for its bulb selection.
- Burned out summer flowers can be replaced with young new annual flowers. Buy these flowers in 4 1/2" or 6" pots. After planting, feed with [*Plant Trust Flower and Bulb Fertilizer*](#) to give these flowers a good start.
- Newly planted young annual flowers will bloom until the first frost (approximately 2-3 months from now).

Vegetables:

- Seeds of cauliflower, brussels sprout, collard, kale, and broccoli can now be planted for a fall harvest. A fall vegetable garden will have fewer bugs.
- Lettuce and spinach seeds have to wait until early September for planting.