

7-25-2015

Shrubs:

- Scatter cotton seed meal around the drip line of each azalea, pieris japonica, and rhododendrons to promote healthy flower and bud formation in the late summer. When it does not rain in July and August, water your azaleas and Japanese Holly's every 4 days.
- Crepe Myrtles suffering from mildew can be treated with [Agri-fos](#). If you have not yet fed your Crepe Myrtles this year, feed now with [Garden trust](#), 2 oz per foot of height.
- To control lace bugs on rhododendrons and azaleas planted in the sun, use [Bonide Annual tree and shrub insect control](#). You can tell that lace bugs are present because the leaves will look silvery white.
- Spray for Japanese Beetles with [Bonide Eight](#).
- Keep an eye out for mites on Alberta Spruces. When there are brown spots developing on the sides of the spruce, spruce mites are likely present. To treat this, apply [Summit Year Round Spray Oil](#). When the top of the Albert Spruce turns brown, this is an indicator that the spruce is too dry.

Flowers:

- Use a [Luster Leaf PH Tester](#) to check the pH on petunias, calibrachoa, hibiscus, and geraniums that are planted in pots, containers, or baskets. If the pH is near 7, use 2 tablespoons of vinegar per quart of water and water every 2 weeks with this mix. Also, feed these plants weekly with [Neptune's Harvest fish and seaweed fertilizer](#).
- Replace your dead or dying annual flowers with Vinca Minor because these plants can withstand the heat and require little water. Be sure to feed these Vinca Minors with [Garden Trust](#) after planting.
- Cut spent flower stocks of off perennials.
- Now is the last chance to prune hardy mum's to promote bushy plant growth and make flowers this fall. Feed now with [Garden Trust](#), 1-2 oz per plant, if not done fed in the previous few weeks.

Vegetable Garden:

- The tomato in a can needs to be watered once or even twice a day when temperatures are 90°F or above. Be sure to feed the tomato in the can with Monterey Fish and Poop Fertilizer every 5 days, the concentration should be 2 tablespoons per gallon of water.

Lawn:

- If you did not apply *Bonide Crabgrass Control with Dimension* in the spring, then goose grass and crabgrass will begin to grow on sunny lawns. To stop this, apply [Bonide weedbeater plus crabgrass killer](#) now, before the goose and crab grass get out of control.
- Bermuda grass in your flower beds or shrubbery can be killed with [Grass Getter](#); before applying make sure your plants are listed as safe to spray on the label.
- In areas where poana or annual blue grass was present, but died this summer, sow [Water Saver RTF Tall Fescue now](#). Cover these seeds with *Leafgro* or sphagnum peat

moss after planting. Water daily until germination. Make a half rate application of [Turf Trust](#) over the entire lawn after sowing. To prevent annual blue grass return, apply [Crabgrass preventer with dimension](#) in late August over the entire lawn, except in the shade. This fall, do not sow grass seed on this treated lawn, only apply *Turf Trust* as scheduled.

- Keep mowing your [RTF Tall Fescue](#) at 3.5 - 4 inches and keep the mower blades sharpened . This is the same height that it should have been mowed during the spring. Be sure to keep the mower blade sharp. There have been calls regarding brown patches in lawns. The most common cause for this is fungus. Fungus will occur because lawns were not mowed for 10-14 days and the grass had remained wet from evening rain and the high humidity from the warm temperatures . Be sure to mow at least once a week. Do not rely on lawn fungicides to treat your lawn for the brown spots because the fungicide will kill both good and bad fungi. The good fungi is needed because they prey on brown patch and dollar spot fungus. To treat, make a half application of [Turf Trust](#) now, then two applications of KickStart ten day apart and within a few weeks the brown spots will go away. The C.D.U. and ammonium sulfate will naturally help eradicate the dollar spot and brown patch fungus. However, if your lawn was over seeded last fall and too much seed was used per square foot, then the brown patches cannot repair themselves, and these areas will need to be reseeded with less seed in the fall.
- Never water your lawn in the evening during the summer.
- Do not forget to make the monthly [Kick Start](#) application if you made a phosphate free lawn fertilizer application or if your grass was sown last fall.
- *Kick Start* naturally helps phosphate become available and makes fertilizer more efficient. Go to [Kickstart video](#) to see how kick start has improved grass root systems.

Flowers:

- Grande flora petunias should be pruned after the 4th of July. Begin by removing 1/3 of the foliage. Then, feed with [Jack's Classic Petunia Feed](#).
- Wave petunias do not need to be pruned; they only need to be fed.
- Dianthus should be deadheaded and fed with [plant trust](#). This will help keep them blooming throughout the summer.
- Hollyhocks should be sprayed with [Bonide Mancozeb](#) to prevent rust from overtaking foliage later this month.
- Hanging baskets and potted plants that are outside will need to be watered daily during these hot summer days. If you are leaving town for the up coming holiday weekend, have someone water these plants daily or move them to a shaded area before leaving. If you are going out of town for a week and have no one to water the plants, then water with [Natural Industries Vacation](#). This product will decrease the plants need for water for up to two weeks.
- If your flowers and perennials are properly fed, there is little chance they will develop disease.
- To ensure your hardy mum bloom properly in the fall, do not prune your mums after approximately July 10th.

- When flowers have finished blooming on Trumpet, Tiger, Oriental, and Asian Lilies, cut the only the flower and leave the stem intact with growing leaves. Feed lily plants with Garden Trust. Only cut the stem after the entire lily has turned brown in the fall.