June 26, 2014 things to do this week

To be mosquito free over the 4th of July weekend. Apply Summit mosquito and gnat barrier spray in the evening or before a party.

Use the Summit mosquito dunks in ponds, animal troughs, rain barrels, or anywhere that you have standing water. This will keep the mosquito population down.

Shrubs / Plants:

• Remove old dead flowers on butterfly bushes “buddleia” to make room for new growth and flower spikes. Make sure your butterfly bushes were fed with Garden Trust if not done so already. Standard butterfly bushes are cleaner looking and easier to maintain as compared to dwarf varieties.
• Remember to watch for bagworms on arborvitae. Use BT to irradiate the bag worms when they are still small. If the bagworms are larger later on, then use Bonide Systemic Insect Control.
• Remove old flowers from your rhododendron after flowering.
• Now is the time to shape out of shape plants.
• Mountain Laurel can be pruned now.
• Make sure to feed your rhododendron and Mountain Laurels. If they have not been fed with Plant Trust, then do so now.
• Support re-blooming hydrangea with double loop peony rings. This type of hydrangea does not have stems as strong as non-re-blooming mop head hydrangea.
• Cedar apple rust spots are now visible on apple, crab apple, and Asian pear trees. These trees should have been sprayed with Monterey Liqui-cop before they broke dormancy. Apply Bonide Copper Fungicide or Mancozeb to slow this fungus down.
• Spruce, pine, and juniper turning brown from the inside out likely have spider mites. Treat as soon as possible with Summit Year Round Spray Oil. If these trees are not treated, they may die, especially Alberta Spruce. After spraying, make sure that the plants are well fed with Plant Trust if not already done.

Look for lace flies on Azaleas that are planted in full sun. (leaves will look they are covered with salt and pepper, also under the leaves they will have black spots) Treat them with Bonide systemic insect control. Make sure to check the soils Ph with a luster leaf PH meter. When the Azalea leaves look brown or burned the PH may be too high, adjust the ph with iron sulphate to get the ph to aprox 5.5 , and feed the Azaleas now with Hi-Yeild cotton seed meal.

Remove spent Rose flowers from your knockout roses and inspect them for rose slugs. Control them with Bonide rose RX systemic drench or Dust.

Peonies and tall Phlox that have whitish spots are infected with mildew apply Monterey Agri-fos three times ten days apart and also feed them with Garden Trust if they have not been fed yet.
Tomatoes remove any tomatoes that have a black spot and rot, known as blossom end rot on tomatoes. Treat with Bonide stop rot and give the affected plant an application of Bonide hydrated lime and Hi-Yeild Calcium Nitrate.

Tomato plants in containers that are developing yellow leaves with brown spots on the plants lower half, means that the plant is running low on food or they where not watered once on time. Tomato plants that are in containers should be fed every 5 days with Monterey Fish and poop fertilizer in July and August.

Weak or sick houseplants, put them outside in the shade and feed them weekly with seamate.

Alway read product labels prior to application.

The key to disease free plants is proper feeding.

Lawn Brown spots can be cause by one of the following rain or over watering, or letting the lawn get to long between mowings. Mow the lawn at a height of 2 1/2 to 3 inches. To fix the brown patch or dollar spot disease make two applications of Kick Start and a light application of Turf Trust. This will help the lawn outgrow the disease fungicide applications can actually cause more problems in the future and should only be used as a last resort option.