

LANDSCAPE AFTERCARE GUIDE

Thank you for allowing to design and install your new landscape. We appreciate your business and want your landscape to survive & thrive throughout the years to come. We have created this guide to help you maintain your investment. You may always contact us if you have any questions or concerns about care.

WATER- New plantings require more frequent watering until they are established. It is always best to do a touch test to determine when water is needed. Feel the soil around the root of the plant, about 2-3" deep, & water when dry. This method is preferred over scheduled watering because there are many factors that affect water needs. Rainfall, location, season, and plant type are major factors to consider when watering. Below are a few suggested guidelines that will help you determine when watering is necessary. Keep in mind that during the first 10 days after planting, daily watering may be necessary. After that, you may begin tapering off watering to every other or every third day. After three or 4 weeks, you may be able to water only as needed to be determined by a touch test. Watch for signs of water stress and adjust according to your plant needs. Wilting & browning of leaf tips are signs drought stress. Yellow leaves, especially leaves located at the base of the plant, followed by a leaf drop are indicators of over watering.

- Over watering & under watering are equally detrimental to plants
- Water plants in early morning or evening
- Always use a hose end hand attachment
- Watering slowly, deeply & less frequently is better than light, shallow watering more often
- Water at the base of the plant & keep water off the leaves
- Allow the soil dry out between watering events
- Don't keep the soil constantly soaked or root rot can develop
- Plants in full sun dry out faster than plants in the shade
- Shallow rooted perennials need more water than deeper rooted shrubs & trees

FERTILIZER- Soon after planting, apply a root stimulating or starter fertilizer. Any other fertilizers are too strong and can burn or shock the plants. We recommend **Fertilome Root Stimulator** or **Espoma Bio-tone Starter Organic Plant Food** to be applied as directed. After 6-8 weeks, feed plants with the appropriate fertilizer. We carry several options for evergreens, blooming plants, trees & shrubs. We are happy to help you choose the perfect product based on your plant's specific needs. There are many organic choices available from **Espoma** & non-organic choices from **Fertilome**.

PRUNING & TRIMMING- All of your trees and shrubs have been properly pruned and shaped before or upon installation by us. Additional pruning can be done as needed. Please inquire for plant specific pruning methods and timing. For clients that need assistance with pruning, ask about being added to our seasonal maintenance schedule.

WEED CONTROL- Weed barrier has been put down underneath all new plantings before the rock or mulch was laid. This high quality woven fabric is very durable and does not allow weeds to penetrate from underneath. This does not prevent weeds from growing in the mulch or gravel. The best way to prevent this from occurring is to apply a pre-emergent herbicide granules before weeds are present to keep weed seeds from germinating. We suggest **Hi-Yield Treflan Herbicide Weed & Grass Stopper**. This product should be applied in spring or immediately after installation to keep weeds at bay for up to 2 months. Another option for even longer lasting weed control is **Hi-Yield Dimension Turf & Ornamental Weed & Grass Stopper**. For established weeds, careful application of a non-selective systemic herbicide containing Glyphosate may be used, but only with extreme caution. **Hi-Yield KillzAll** is available in concentrate or ready to use. The least popular method of weed control is mechanical eradication, commonly known as pulling weeds. This method can be tedious & tiring. Our maintenance crew can make quick work of clearing weeds for you. Contact the store & we can discuss the various services we offer.

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FOR MORE HELPFUL INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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