

TRIO LANDSCAPING est. 2010

Outdoor Living, concept to completion

Caring for Your New Landscape

Congratulations on your new landscape!

Here are some pro tips to take care of your plants so you can enjoy your outdoor space for years to come.

WEEDING

Yes, even in a new landscape, weeds can happen! Here are some tips to manage them better.

1. Apply a preventative herbicide like Preen to wood mulch every 4-6 weeks.
2. Hand pulling is the best way to remove existing weeds but other chemical applications can be used with care.
3. Maintain a 3-4 inch depth of mulch and top it off every 3-5 years.
4. Blowing leaves and grass out of rock mulch regularly will help keep weeds from establishing.

Visit our website resource page for other care tips and organic weed control options.

PRUNING

Your new landscape is young and many of the shrubs and evergreens won't need to be pruned until they are more established.

1. Light shaping to keep plants looking tidy is all that you need to do. We design most landscapes to be lower maintenance, meaning we place plants so they like where they are and will fill their space over time.
2. Plan on trimming your low maintenance plants every two years and shaped or hedged plants 1-2 times each year.

Plants and shrubs should be pruned at the correct time of the year to avoid removing next season's blooms. Please refer to your provided plant sheets for instructions on when the best time is to prune your plants.

PERENNIAL FALL CLEAN UP

Fall clean up is a lot of work, but here are some tips to make things easier and to add habitat for beneficial insects and winter interest for you.

1. Remove any diseased plant material and food crops so you don't contaminate the soil. Certain plants such as tomatoes and raspberries can harbor disease more than others. Perennial plants with powdery mildew on leaves or stems should be removed and disposed of or burned.
2. It is okay to leave the foliage of healthy plants over winter to protect your new plants.. There is some research that shows that leaving the foliage on the plant will result in better survival rates because it provides a natural insulation barrier helping to protect roots against wind and frigid temperatures.
3. Benefits to leaving perennial foliage: Some perennials are very pretty against the white snow and blue skies and can provide interesting textures in an otherwise stark winter landscape and a reminder of things to come. Leaving seed heads and berries over the winter provides habitat for beneficial insects and food for birds. Skip deadheading flowers in the fall and let them go to seed for a smorgasbord for the birds. Tall, hollow stems and fallen plant debris provide a nesting habitat for pollinators.

Taking Care of Sod

Just like your plants, new sod needs to be watered consistently for the first few weeks until the root system is established. (See watering guide.)

Mow your new sod for the first time when it is about 5 inches tall. Mow before you water because you want the sod to be firm so you don't damage the roots. Set your mower blade so the mow height is 3-4 inches tall as a longer lawn establishes better. Once the sod is well established, keep the mow height at 2.5-3 inches.

Keep foot traffic and play off the new sod for the first few weeks until established. This will prevent damage and rutting in the wet soil.

Thank you for choosing Trio Landscaping! Please contact us if you have any questions regarding your landscape. (While we do not provide ongoing maintenance or fall and spring clean, up we do have highly rated referrals that we can provide upon request.)