

JULY 2018

Tips to help with TREES & SHRUBS, ANNUALS & PERENNIALS

- Now is a good time to top up the mulch in your garden beds to reduce moisture loss, keep roots cool during the heat of summer and reduce weeds. A depth of 2" - 3" is recommended, but avoid mounding mulch against the stems/bark of your plants, to prevent rot.
- Prune back shrubs that have finished blooming and/or dead head annuals & perennials. Depending on the shrub, it can encourage more blooming or allow time to set new blooms for next season. Dead heading/pinching off finished flowers can help keep your annuals and perennials tidy and blooming longer.
- Water your plants and grass deeply and infrequently to improve root development. As soil dries from the top down, roots need to reach deeper to find moisture, resulting in a better root system and plant.
- If you use a slow release, granular fertilizer for your trees, shrubs and perennials, July should be the final application for the year. This will give your plants time to slow their growth and harden off before winter.

Tips to help with PONDS:

- Biological activity (plant growth and debris breakdown) in your pond increases in the summer months, using up oxygen in the process. Warmer water also cannot hold as much oxygen as cold water. Koi and goldfish thrive in oxygen rich water, therefore in the heat of summer you may need to use an aerator/air pump to keep oxygen levels up for your fish and the beneficial bacteria in your pond. If you notice your fish gulping at the surface when you're not feeding them, this is a clear indication of low oxygen levels.

Tips to help with FRUITS, VEGGIES & HERBS:

- For tall growing tomatoes, remove side shoots (usually growing out between the main stem and a leaf branch) to direct the plants energy into growing upright.

Tips to help with LAWNS:

- Weeds can grow rapidly in the summer. Proactive weed control with Wilson Lawn WeedOut will prevent weeds from seeding further in your lawn.
- Don't cut your grass too short. For most types of grass, 2.5" to 3.5" (6.35 to 8.9 cm) is the ideal length. Longer grass means a healthier lawn, deeper roots, a greener lawn in the summer and helps prevent weeds from getting started.

Tips to help with HOUSEPLANTS:

- Use a 15-30-15 water soluble fertilizer for your flowering houseplants, to give you the best flowering while the days are long.