

## AUGUST 2018

### **Tips to help with TREES & SHRUBS, ANNUALS & PERENNIALS:**

- Take some time to deadhead your annuals and perennials to promote further blooming.
- Keep removing weeds, to give your desirable plants the room, water and nutrients they need to perform their best.
- You can't really over fertilize your annuals, so applying water soluble 15-30-15 every two weeks, will help keep the blooms and colour coming for the next few months.

### **Tips to help with PONDS:**

- Water levels often drop in the heat of summer, but tap water is not ideal for topping up your pond, due to the chlorine and nutrients (like nitrates) it can contain. This can contribute to algae in your pond. Ideally rain water captured in a rain barrel can be used, but if that's not an option, make sure to use a dechlorinator like Microbe-Lift Aqua Extreme or Aquascape Pond Detoxifier.
- Use natural Barley Straw to help fight new algae in your pond. It is best looked at as a preventative product. As it breaks down, Barley releases byproducts that help prevent algae growth, without harming other plants or fish in your pond. In liquid form, it works almost immediately, pellet form takes a bit longer for the break down to take place. Barley is best used in an area with good water movement to help spread the byproducts throughout the pond.

### **Tips to help with FRUITS, VEGGIES & HERBS:**

- If you have any early season vegetables that have finished producing for the year, remove and compost them, to reduce the water and nutrients they are taking from the soil and the other plants in the garden.
- Make sure your tomato plants are well supported, as they hopefully are going to be producing a heavy crop of beautiful, tasty fruit.

### **Tips to help with LAWNS:**

- Mid to late August is the perfect time to over seed your lawn. Night time temperatures are dropping and the amount of rain is increasing. This helps create dew and reduces the amount of work you need to do, in terms of watering. It also gives time for the seed to get established before you apply your fall lawn fertilizer in October.
- Raking up debris and removing thatch will help the seed make contact with soil and improve the germinations rate of the seed you put down. Apply a Top Dresser soil to any bare patches or low spots to help level your lawn before you apply the grass seed.
- Keep an eye to make sure the soil doesn't dry out and water daily if we don't receive regular rain.

### **Tips to help with HOUSEPLANTS:**

- Regular watering is very important for your houseplants that are outside during the summer, the heat and lack of rain can be stressful. Fertilize your green plants with All Purpose 20-20-20 water soluble fertilizer and your flowering plants with Flowering 15-30-15.