

CARING FOR YOUR NEWLY INSTALLED PLANTS

TIPS FOR WATERING

- ☐ Proper watering is especially crucial during the first two years of planting. During this time the roots are working to get established.
- ☐ The best time to water is during the morning. Afternoon and evening watering increase the likelihood for fungus and mold.
- ☐ Keep water pressure low so that water has time to seep in rather than run off.
- ☐ Water the root ball or area directly below the plant rather than the leaves
- ☐ For trees and shrubs, a deep less frequent watering is better than frequent, shallow watering. This promotes a deep root system and helps to prevent root rot.
- ☐ Don't be afraid to stick your fingers down into the soil and inch or two to determine moisture levels. This is really the best way to tell if watering is needed.



WHEN TO WATER

November through March -

- ☐ Water 1x per week if we don't get significant rain fall (more than 1 inch)
 - Perennials should only be watered if leaves begin to droop
 - Slow watering is best

April through October -

- ☐ SLOW watering every 3-4 days. Checking moisture levels with your finger is the best way to determine if your plant needs water.
 - Perennials should be hand watered every couple days
 - 15 Gal or larger trees should be watered using a SLOW trickle from a garden hose for about 30 minutes, 2x per week.

ADDITIONAL CARE TIPS

- ☐ Pruning: The best time to prune shrubs is immediately after they are finished blooming. Evergreen shrubs that do not bloom can be trimmed when necessary throughout the year. Use a hand pruner to keep a natural look or a hedge trimmer for a more formal look. Cut back perennials to the ground after the first frost.. The roots will still be under the ground and produce a new plant the following year.
- ☐ Mulching: Mulching in the spring and fall will help protect the roots of the plants and help prevent weeds.
- ☐ Fertilizing: A slow release granular fertilizer, such as Osmocote, Holly-tone, or Bio-Tone is recommended rather than a water-based fertilizer, which allows for error. It's best to fertilize when the ground is wet, whether after it has rained or after you have watered your plants thoroughly.
Please use gloves when handling any type of fertilizer Lightly sprinkle the fertilizer around the base of each plant (please, read and follow directions on the fertilizer package). The best time to fertilize is in the spring when the plants are growing, and the fall to supplement the plants through the winter. The summer is too hot and dry, fertilizing could burn the roots of the plants. In the winter the plants go dormant, they are not growing, so there is no need to fertilize