



# AUGUST LANDSCAPE GUIDE

## Lawn

- Late this month, if necessary, you can start the fall treatment for white grubs.
- Establish a new lawn or renovate an old one between August 15 and September 15. M.S.U research has shown this to be the best time to start a lawn in Michigan.
- Seed bare spots in established lawns. To promote quick germination, loosen the soil before seeding, firm it afterward and keep newly seeded areas moist. Sow seeds of improved turfgrass varieties that are compatible with the grass already growing there and adapted to the growing conditions. If you don't know what's growing in your lawn, the rule of thumb is to use improved Kentucky bluegrass in sunny areas and a mixture of bluegrass and red fescue in shaded lawns.
- You can lay sod at this time. To calculate your needs, determine your area and add 10%. Sod strips should be of even thickness and moisture with clean edges and a good root mat. Lay in a staggered pattern, like brickwork, and roll to put the roots in contact with the soil. Water daily until established.

## Trees, Shrubs and Vines

- Emerald Ash Borer control - further information available at <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/> - trunk injection with bidrin (Injecticide-B™) can be applied anytime from June to August by professional applicators (not available to homeowners)
- Treat black locust and rose acacia for locust borers. The best time is when mountain ash fruit is ripe and pee gee hydrangea blooms are white.
- Avoid fertilizing trees and shrubs now. They would respond with a flush of late growth that would not have time to harden off before winter.
- Spray junipers early this month if you have crabapples or hawthorns nearby. Two sprays at ten day intervals will help prevent cedar rust.
- No more pruning should be done on evergreens this season.
- Evergreens can still be planted at this time.
- Yellow leaves with green veins are a sign of nutritional deficiency in landscape ornamentals. Azaleas and oaks showing these signs are iron deficient; maples, manganese deficient. Plan to apply iron or manganese chelates to the soil or place implants in trees next spring.
- Treat severe infestations of lacebugs on sycamore, honey locust and other ornamentals with sevin, malathion, or orthene.
- Let aphid predators control large numbers of aphids in maple trees. The aphids cannot do any serious damage this late in the season, and spraying would wipe out aphid predators and other beneficial insects.
- Remove and destroy bagworms feeding on ornamentals. Spraying with insecticides will not be effective now.
- Tent-like nests of fall webworm can be seen on the terminal branches of trees. These late season defoliators can be controlled by pruning if desired. They cause only minor damage to trees.