



JULY LANDSCAPE GUIDE

Lawn

- Imidicloprid (Merit™) or MACH II™ (molt accelerating compound halofenozide) can be applied, if necessary, for grub control.
- Bluegrass is a cool season plant and is under great stress during hot, dry summers. If water is not applied, the bluegrass will become dormant and turn brown until more favorable conditions arrive.
- Water established lawns whenever rainfall fails to provide 1 to 1 ½ inches of water per week.
- If there is moisture stress on the lawn, keep an eye out for opportunistic diseases. An over-watered lawn will be prone to brown patch and melting out. A drought-stressed lawn will be at risk for necrotic ring spot and dollar spot.
- Keep grass mowed to a height of 2½ to 3 inches. Keep the mower blades sharp for a clean cut.
- Control problem perennial grasses such as quackgrass, tall fescue and bentgrass in areas where you'll be seeding a new lawn or renovating an old one later this summer. Apply lawn herbicides labeled for controlling these weeds in late July or early August. Use them carefully on a calm day to avoid injuring landscape ornamentals or garden plants. Read and follow label directions carefully whenever you use herbicides or any lawn and garden chemical.
- Lawns recovering from Necrotic Ring Spot will need daily watering during dry weather. Fertilize once a month through August, applying ½ pound of actual nitrogen to strengthen the plants' roots.

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) or,
 - early July: second application of a trunk/limb/foliage spray -- cyfluthrin (Bayer Multi Insect Killer™) available to homeowners. Available only to professional applicators: cyfluthrin (Tempo™) or bifenthrin (Onyx™).
- If birch leafminer was severe this year, spray late in the month to prevent damage from the second generation.
- Keep birch trees growing vigorously by watering and fertilizing them. This will help them resist attack by the bronze birch borer.
- Water newly planted trees and shrubs thoroughly once a week during dry weather. They are much more sensitive to drought than established landscape plants.
- You can still plant container grown trees and shrubs.
- Control large numbers of lacebugs on sycamore, andromeda or azalea with a labeled insecticide. Be sure to spray the undersides of the leaves.
- Spruces and hemlocks with yellowing needles may be infested with mites. Shake a branch over a sheet of white paper. Dislodged mites will appear on the paper as barely visible, moving specks. Control mites with a labeled insecticide.
- Do not plant bare root or balled and burlap stock at this time of year. Container grown plants still may be planted, but only if you can keep them well watered.
- Many trees are plagued by "lawn mower blight." Be careful to avoid nicking tree trunks while mowing.
- Prune hedges and non-blooming broadleaf evergreens.
- Remove old flower heads from lilacs and rhododendrons.
- Monitor for Japanese beetle. If spotted, spray with a contact insecticide or hand-pick and drop into soapy water.
- Because trees' energy reserves are low at this time, do not trim or prune them.
- Cottony maple scale crawlers are emerging this month. Spray on a weekly basis with a labeled insecticide.
- Rhododendrons and azaleas should be watered one to two times per week in dry weather.
- Lilac and honeysuckle can get powdery mildew. Begin prevention sprays with a labeled fungicide. Usually, the damage is cosmetic.
- Trimming can be done on arborvitae, yew, hemlock and juniper.
- A second generation of pine needle scale will be hatching when Queen Anne's lace is blooming and when mountain ash fruit is turning orange. If your pines or spruce are affected, spray with a labeled insecticide. Oil should not be used on blue spruce (it removes the blue tones).
- Spray to control aphids in maples and honey locusts only in extreme cases. Natural predators will usually control them.

Vines

- Spray honeysuckle to prevent powdery mildew with a labeled fungicide.