

Maintaining Your New Landscape

Watering

- Check the soil moisture every 2-3 days by compressing the soil in your hand.
- If the soil feels somewhat tacky, you do not need to water. If the soil feels dry. It is time to water.
- Provide deep root saturation by running water at a slow rate next to the main stem/trunk.
- Watering time and frequency will depend on the site conditions as well as the size and type of plant.
- **Benchmarks** - 5-10 minutes for medium sized shrubs; Several 5-10 minute locations around the trunk of a larger tree.
- **Note** - Over or under watering will result in leaf yellowing, drooping/wilting of new growth, or untimely leaf drop.

Fertilizing

- All plants have been fertilized with a root growth fertilizer at installation.
- Balanced slow-release shrub/tree fertilizers commence one year later and are to be applied according to the season.
- **Deciduous Shrubs** - Shrubs such as Spirea, Potentilla and Lilac require a granular fertilizer applied per product packaging.
- **Acid-Loving Plants** - Acid-loving plants such as Redbud, Dogwood, Magnolia, Boxwood, Rhododendron and Azalea require acid and fertilizer treatments twice a year. Once in spring and once mid-summer (July). We recommend Holly-Tone for the Acid.
- **Note** - Proper acid/fertilizer treatment of acid-loving plants will insure proper flower production. Do not over treat.

Winter Protection

- Broadleaf evergreen shrubs such as Rhododendrons, Boxwood, Holly and Azalea, can require protection from the winter wind and sun, if planted in south sun and windy areas.
- Be sure to continue watering well into fall until at least the first frost.

Pruning

- Little if any pruning should be required during the first season after installation.
- Some ornamental trees and specimen plantings must be selectively pruned to maintain the desired shape.
- Hedges can easily be maintained by shearing to restrict growth and maintain size.
- **Deciduous shrubs** - new growth bloomers can be pruned before and after flowering. Old growth bloomers be pruned only after flowering.
- **Evergreen shrubs** - Can be pruned in mid to late spring.
- Late summer pruning should be avoided as new growth will not have time to mature before winter.
- Late fall pruning can occur once dormancy has started.