

# **Caring for Your New Landscape**

As your landscape changes and grows, it will need some help from you along the way. Just like your home and car, there are tasks that are required to keep your landscape in tip top shape. Proper maintenance including pruning, weeding, mulching, and watering while your landscape matures is crucial to your overall landscape health.

## How do I Water My New Landscape?

The key to establishing plants is watering. New plantings should need one to two inches of watering or 30 min. per week. For new plants this can be done by applying 1-2 gallons daily and for new trees by applying 3-5 gallons daily with a watering can, bucket, hose, sprinkler, your irrigation system, or the rain. This may change based on the weather so check the soil by brushing any mulch aside and feeling the soil about an inch down. If it's dry, it's time to water. It is important to monitor watering for one to two growing seasons after planting.

If using a hose or watering can water each plant multiple times to make sure the water really soaks in. Water all the plants once and return when the water soaks in and water again. If using a sprinkler or irrigation system water long enough for the water to soak in to a minimum of two inches.

## My Plants Don't Look So Good...

Don't panic! Your new landscape plants have just been taken out of the ideal growing conditions at our nursery, loaded up into the back of the truck, transported to your home, removed from their comfortable pots and planted in very different soil than the potting mix they came to know and love... Quite the shock! Symptoms of transplant shock include yellowing and dropping of leaves, dieback, and lack of flowering. With proper watering and maintenance, your plants should show no signs of stress after 60 days.

There are still some instances where a plant just does not survive, regardless of how carefully we ready the site and select you plants. If you notice any weak or dying plants, please contact us so we can check and/or replace it as soon as possible.

#### How Often Should I Mulch?

We recommend freshening up your mulch every year or two light mulching minimizes weeds, conserves moisture, and keeps your landscape looking fresh and new. When remulching a light dusting with a shovel or pitchfork is all that's needed up to 2". Keep a few inches of space between mulch and the trunks of trees and shrubs. Make sure to keep existing mulch loose around plants. Turn your mulch every year before touching up areas with fresh bark.

#### Do I Need to Prune?

Pruning is an important part of keeping your landscape healthy and looking good. Pruning practices vary on the types of plants used in your landscape. Dead or broken branches and spent blooms should be removed as needed. Most plants need some additional trimming throughout the year. If you would like to learn more, please reference our pruning handout.

### Can You Help Maintain My Landscape?

Of Course! If you would like assistance maintaining your new landscape our maintenance services are for you. Consult our knowledgeable staff on the right maintenance plan for your home. Schalow's offers the following landscape services:

Mulching, Pruning, Weed Control, Fertilization, Spring/Fall Clean Up, Annual Displays, Dividing/Transplanting, and Irrigation Design and Maintenance.

If there are any details on caring for your landscape that are not clear, please contact us for more information!