

Spring Landscape Cleanup

Tips to making your yard look fantastic!



Spring cleanup is just as important as fall cleanup! Proper maintenance of plants can make or break the health of many plants in your landscape. Let's look at the steps of pruning, cleaning, mulching, and fertilizing to make your yard the envy of the neighborhood!

Cleaning and Pruning

Going through your lawn and landscape and performing a deep cleaning is important to maintain the health of your plants. First, remove all trash and debris. If you didn't have a chance to trim your perennials the previous fall, now is the time to do so. Most perennials should be pruned to a height of just a few inches but be sure to consult a professional if you're unsure. Some shrubs, including hydrangeas, should only be pruned in the spring. Typically, pruning involves removing 1/3 of the total plant structure, focusing on thinning the plant while maintaining its uniform shape.

Next, take a closer look at your remaining plants and inspect for broken branches. Any branches that require pruning should be cut just above a living bud. If the plant has significant damage, consider pruning it for rejuvenation.



Fertilizing and Mulching

Fertilizing plants is typically done when you see active growth, and most landscape plants should be fertilized from mid to late May through mid-July. One application of granular fertilizer per season is best for all your landscape plants. Please read the Spring Perennial and Tree Fertilizer Resource Guide for specific recommendations on fertilizing.

A fresh coat of mulch is also important for your landscape. Mulch creates a layer of insulation to keep your plants cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Additionally, it helps retain moisture in the root zone, sometimes serving as a lifesaver for plants. A layer of 3-4" is optimum for these benefits. A fresh layer also gives your landscape a new look!

