



Basic Plant Care Instructions for Newly Installed Plant Materials

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS ARE GUIDELINES FOR PLANT MATERIAL CARE & SHOULD BE CLOSELY FOLLOWED TO ENCOURAGE PLANT HEALTH AND VIGOR: These are not a guarantee!

1) Watering:

Water is the single most important factor in the establishment of newly installed plant materials. It is imperative that the soil directly around the root ball remain moist during the initial growing season. The amount of water applied will vary according to a number of factors; however, as a general rule, water each plant with an un-nozzled hose until water begins to puddle around the plant's base. Never assume that the plant is either dry or wet. Simply move aside the mulch from the base of the plant and feel the soil. If it is cold and moist, no water is needed at that time. Once plants have established, watering should only be needed during periods of drought.

2) Fertilization:

Upon installation all plant material is fertilized with a slow release, balanced fertilizer. Clearwater Landscape recommends reapplying fertilizer each fall with approximately 4 oz. of balanced fertilizer. This will help promote vigorous growth the following spring. Carefully read and follow the label directions of the fertilizer you use.

3) Pruning:

Pruning is necessary to ensure the aesthetic value of some plants and to promote satisfactory growth. Pruning should not be needed until the following season. The primary function of pruning is to maintain or reduce plant size and remove undesirable (diseased or broken) branches, as well as promote growth for a more dense appearance. As a general rule, prune flowering shrubs after they bloom.

4) Weeds:

A pre-emergent herbicide was used at the time your landscape was installed. Some weeds, however, will resist the effects of the herbicide and should be removed as soon as they appear. Allowing weeds time to establish will increase their populations and make their removal more difficult. If you should develop an uncontrollable weed problem, please contact us for recommendations.

5) Mulch:

Re-mulch your landscaping as necessary to maintain a layer of mulch. This will help inhibit weed, retain moisture, decrease rapid changes in soil temperature, and give your landscape a fresh, clean appearance. Re-edging of bed lines will further enhance your landscaping.