

Summer Lovin'

Just because summer has officially started in the Dallas metroplex doesn't mean you can't love your landscape. There are smaller maintenance needs in the landscape this time of year, just don't forget your plants still need love during the heat.

August is one of our hotter months in the Dallas/ Fort Worth Area and it has a tendency to do some interesting things to the nutrients in the soil. One of the biggest nutrient tie ups you will see during the summer is Iron. The symptoms to look for are yellowing leaves with dark green veins in the new growth. Something with our heat has a tendency to tie up iron and not make it available for the plant. It is easily treated with a chelated Iron drench that is poured at the base of plants. Be careful though, most Iron chelates can stain your clothes.



One of the more beautiful summer trees are Crape Myrtles. To ensure beautiful blooms off and on through the summer is to dead head the seed pods. That can be accomplished by pinching the pods off or pruning the pods off by taking hand pruners or hedge trimmers to your small trees. If you need a ladder to prune you may want to enlist the assistance of a landscape professional to keep yourself safe.

Bugs love heat! Now would be a good time to walk through your landscape (early in the morning of course) and inspect indoor plants for pests. Be sure to look at the underside of leaves and at the base. If you do have to treat for pests be sure to do it early in the morning to allow for drying time throughout the day. Do not spray at night. Added moisture to leaves can cause other problems in the landscape.



As much as we want to stay indoors we cannot forget about the landscape. A little extra love during the summer months can go a long way with keeping your landscape healthy for the upcoming fall.