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YARD 'N' GARDEN

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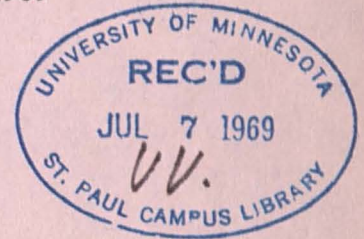


EXTENSION
HORTICULTURISTS

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SUMMER MAINTENANCE

Good summer maintenance can enhance the beauty of your home landscape.

Summer maintenance includes fertilization, watering, pest control, and edging and pruning. Neglecting any of these makes the home landscape unattractive.

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A summer application of 5-10-5 fertilizer is often necessary on annuals and perennials with a high fertilizer requirement. This can be applied in dry form at the base of the plant and then cultivated. It can also be applied through a liquid fertilizer or by the use of specialized fertilizing equipment which places the fertilizer below the soil surface.

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Constant pest vigilance is necessary to prevent the foliage from becoming distorted through injury. The pests can be controlled, but the symptoms are often permanent. Once injury has occurred on ornamental plants you can't do much to correct the symptoms. Use a good all-purpose insecticide fungicide.

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Grooming the garden by edging gives most landscapes distinctiveness. It's advisable to edge around each of the flower borders and foundation plantings. To do this, lay the garden hose out to form the shape of the border and then use either a sharp spade or edging tool to cut out the sod next to the garden area. Leave the edge less than 2 inches deep so it can be easily mowed and won't break away under pressure.

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