



Bioretention BMP Landscape Maintenance Schedule

January

- During winter drought periods. Trees and shrubs planted in the previous season may suffer if not kept watered, even in winter.
- Pick up trash once a month throughout the year.

February

- Finish pruning trees, shrubs, and vines before leaf-out in late March.
- Mulch where needed to a depth of one inch to reduce weeding and maintain moisture. Mulching will reduce about 70 percent of the summer yard maintenance.

March

- Cut down and remove dead leaves, stems and seed heads from perennials and grasses if still remaining.
- Begin hand weeding or spot spraying with Roundup, especially winter annuals that sprouted up through winter months.
- Plant trees, shrubs, vines, perennials and grasses through May. Recycle all plastic pots.
- If you have not done so by now, replace worn, punctured and broken parts on irrigation system before turning on in April.

April

- Continue hand weeding or spot spraying with Roundup.
- Replace mulch which has been washed out with spring rains. Smooth mulch layer if it has been disturbed.
- Prune winter-damaged branches on shrubs or trees that have not begun to grow by late April/early May (especially beautyberry).

May

- Sweep up, scoop up and/or pick up debris in walkways, curbs and especially storm-water inlets and basins on monthly basis.
- Nutsedge become visible during this month. Hand pull weekly or apply Sedge-Hammer or Pro Sedge according to label.
- Water new transplants and newly planted shrubs and trees unless rainfall is abundant.

June

- Continue weeding.
- Cultivate and mulch. Mulching will reduce about 70 percent of the summer yard maintenance.
- Continue to water new plantings deeply as needed. Apply at least one inch of water each time.
- Continue picking up trash every month throughout the year.
- Prune long branches on trees and shrubs that obstruct walkways or are out of control.

July

- Expect some leaf fall, a normal reaction to summer drought. Continue watering young plantings.
- Prune back any vegetation overhanging curbs or sidewalks.
- Remove diseased plant material (like deformed purple coneflower) by digging entire plant and disposing in trash.

August

- Continue weeding.
- Water all key planting areas thoroughly unless rainfall has been adequate.
- Hedges and shrubs can be pruned, if necessary, about mid-August.

September

- Check plants for signs of water stress, nutrient deficiency or disease.
- Now through November is a good time to plant trees and shrubs. Be sure to mulch to a depth of 3-4 inches.
- Mulch where needed to a depth of one inch to reduce weeding and maintain moisture. Mulching will reduce about 70 percent of the summer yard maintenance.
- September and October are best months to kill invasive bush honeysuckle and other invasive plants like privet, Japanese honeysuckle and autumn olive, burning bush, multiflora rose and buckthorn.. Cut and spray stumps with 10% glyphosate..

October

- Scout property for invasive bush honeysuckle. Leaves are bright yellow with red berries in Oct.
- Remove tree leaves and litter from parking lot curbs, storm water inlets and basins.
- Prune back any groundcover overhanging curbs or sidewalks.
- Keep dead leaves, stems and seed heads on perennials and grasses over winter to provide food and shelter for birds and overwintering insects.
- Hand weed or spot spray emerging winter annuals with Roundup.

November

- Remove tree leaves and litter from parking lot curbs, storm water inlets and basins.
- Before shutting down irrigation system for the winter, inspect drip lines, pipes, nozzles, etc. for leaks. This may involve digging up a pipe or valve in a soggy area to inspect for punctures or leaks. Mark all leaks and repair after turning off the water for winter.
- Good time to make improvements to hardscapes (pavers, walls, stonework, woodwork, etc.)
- Cut down and remove dead leaves, stems and seed heads from perennials and grasses during winter months. If your goal is to provide food and cover for wildlife do this after winter is over in March.

December

- Review the year's schedule and make plans for next year's improvements.
- Prune any tree branches in parking lots and sidewalks that interfere with public safety.
- Continue with leaf removal if needed.
- Continue pruning trees and shrubs.