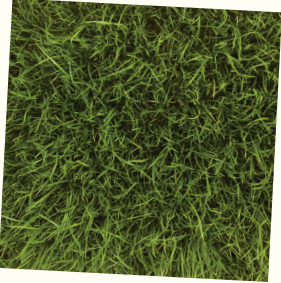


We Beautify the World

MONTHLY TO-DO LIST



GRASS

- Plant your Bermuda lawns if you haven't already.
- Apply iron to your lawn once per month.
- If it's time to dethatch, do it during the active growing season, May through August. Dethatch every two years at a minimum to rejuvenate the grass.



FLOWERS

- Cut back on fertilizing established roses to encourage plants to slow down for the hot summer.
- Water roses deeply as temperatures rise.
- Hose off roses in the early morning to increase humidity and control spider mites.
- Flowers for summer color include: celosia, coreopsis, cosmos, gazanias, globe amaranth, portulaca, zinnia, salvia, vinca (periwinkle), gomphorena, verbena, pentas, potato vine, dusty miller and angelonia (summer snaps).
- Flowerbeds will need irrigation every other day through the summer.
- Use ammonium phosphate in flower beds to increase and keep flowers blooming.
- Remove spent blooms from annual flowers to encourage new blooms.



TREES & SHRUBS

- Pick early-maturing deciduous fruit to prevent bird damage, and ripen fruit at room temperature.
- June is the driest month, so plants may need more water.
- Apply mulch to the ground around heat sensitive plants keep the roots cooler and prevent evaporation.
- Apply chelated iron to bottle brush, pyracantha, silk oak, and other plants with iron deficiency symptoms.
- Heat tolerant plants can be planted right through the summer months. They will need to be watered on a regular basis until fall.
- Transplant palms, mesquites, palo verdes, and other arid shrubs and trees in the heat of the summer for best results.
- Prune bougainvillea and lantana to stimulate growth and blooms.
- Fertilize hibiscus and palms with palm tree food and keep watered. For established hibiscus, prune back about one-third of the new growth.



VEGETABLES

- Plant seeds for cucumbers, squash, cantaloupe, muskmelon
- Plant transplants: sweet potatoes
- Keep plants moist. Wilted leaves in the morning are a sign of moisture stress. Late afternoon wilting may be heat stress.
- Use sunscreens that offer no more than 50% sun reduction.
- As your melons come in, place a board beneath them. This will keep them off the moist soil and prevent insects from attacking them.
- Begin harvesting onions and garlic.

JUNE



Your Desert Garden

Monthly **DON'T** List for June

- **Don't over water.** Yes, it's very hot in the desert in June, so it might seem like watering more is the answer. Not necessarily true. **Water slowly** (prevents run off), **deeply** (use a soil probe or a long handled screwdriver to check that the water is penetrating 2-3 ft. deep for trees and shrubs, and 1- 1½ ft. deep for turf & flowers), **and infrequently** (let the soil dry between watering).
- Do not prune citrus during the summer.
- **Don't shade** corn, squash, melons, black-eyed peas, okra, or grapes.
- **Don't add fertilizer to dry soil.** If you apply dry fertilizer on dry soil and water it in, the fertilizer is carried toward the roots as a concentrated solution and will burn them. Always water first, then apply fertilizers to moist soils, and then continue with the rest of the water.



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