

Summer 2011

Esch Express

Esch Landscaping, LLC
Improving Your Outdoor Living Space!



Happy
Independence
Day!



Greetings from Matt

Despite a slow, cold spring most homeowners have completed the clean up phase of their landscape care and now that the weather is consistently warm the maintenance work has begun: lawns need regular mowing, trees and shrubs need pruning and everyone is interested in adding some long awaited color to liven up their property. Our team is honored that

so many of our valued customers have taken advantage of the maintenance services that we offer to keep their landscaping looking top notch. We're continuing to grow as we receive referrals from current clients and we want to thank you for your business and the trust you place in our staff by allowing Esch Landscaping to be your total

landscape provider. Our team is making every effort to meet the many individual needs of our clients and can tailor a program to fit your personal landscape requirements. If you need help with lawn mowing, fertilizer, plant maintenance or irrigation please feel free to contact us at 453-2211 to let us know how we can be of service.

Pruning Points

One of the most common questions concerning landscaping this time of year is when pruning of trees and shrubs should take place. While some plants are more carefree than others most do benefit from some sort of regular pruning and maintenance. The tricky part is knowing when to prune what. Generally, flowering and fruit bearing plants should be pruned when they are in a dormant state which is late winter through early spring and should not be neglected as these varieties will continually decline in productivity if they are not pruned and tended. So if you are growing tree fruits or berries to harvest, pruning them should be given priority.

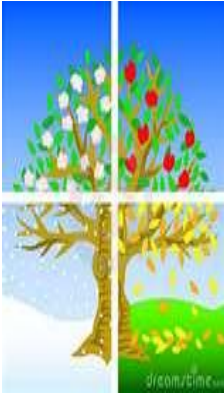
Some plants, like spring blooming trees and shrubs, will start setting new buds as soon as the old buds have fallen. In this case pruning should take place soon after flowering, or you'll be removing the new bud growth along with the old. Many plants benefit from continual pruning and deadheading of faded flowers and leaves to remain strong and hearty.

While it all seems rather confusing at times it's usually not life threatening to a plant if it is pruned at the wrong time of year but does likely leave you with less flowers or fruit. However, the most harmful pruning mistake to avoid is to prune to late in the season and encouraging new tender growth that will be killed when winter weather sets in. Not

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“Be a student of your chosen plant varieties and as you care for them they will return a show year after year.”



“We must all obey the great law of change. It is the most powerful law of nature.”

Edmund Burke

Our greenhouse is now closed for the season. Thanks for shopping with us and have a great summer!

waiting too long into the season is definitely key in our climate. A general rule of thumb is to plan pruning somewhere around the Fourth of July holiday.

Finally, and sometimes not considered are the pruning and maintenance of the non-woody perennials. Many people prefer perennials as they return year after year and are sometimes thought of as maintenance free because they do so. However, most perennial plants, especially the flowering varieties, not only need to be cut back entirely at some point before or after the growing season is completed, they need regular pruning and deadheading as well to stay in peak health.

The internet is an excellent resource for maintenance and tips to keep your landscape healthy and thriving. Be a student of your chosen plant varieties and as you care for them they will in return give you a show year after year. A mature, well kept landscape design increases the curb appeal of your home and also adds substantially to the value.

List of Services:

Asphalt

Driveways
Parking Lots
Pathways

Maintenance

Mowing
Fertilizing
Weed Control
Trimming
Spring & Fall Clean-Up
Mulching
Pond Maintenance
Snow Removal

Irrigation

Sprinkler Installation
Service and Repair
Drip Irrigation

Hardscape

Design/Construction
Brick Pavers
Natural Stone Walls
Boulder placement
Outdoor Kitchens
Waterfalls/Ponds
Outdoor Lighting

Softscape

Tree Moving
Hydroseeding
Quality Plants
Landscape Planting
Landscape Restoration

We will manage your entire project start to finish. Our goal is your satisfaction!

Irrigation



Now that we are in the dryer months of summer don't let the dryer weather and warmer temperatures get the best of your turf and landscape plants. Damage from lack of moisture can set in quickly if you're not careful.

Here are some tips to keep things on track:

* Brown grass is not dead but rather in a dormant state. Avoid letting the grass turn brown, then apply enough water to green it up, then let the grass go dormant again. Repeatedly breaking the lawns dormancy actually drains large amounts of food reserves from the plant.

* Allowing lawns to start to go under mild drought stress actually increases rooting. Look for imprinting or footprints remaining on the lawn after walking across it (instead of leaf blades bouncing back up).

* Thoroughly water when you do water so moisture soaks down to the roots. Exceptions to this general rule would be for newly seeded lawns where the surface needs to stay moist and new sod lawns that have not yet rooted into the soil. Otherwise, **avoid frequent watering** that promote shallower root systems and weeds.

* Water early in the day when lawns are normally wet from dew. Avoid midday watering due to excessive evaporation, and at night due to potential increased chances of some diseases gaining a foothold.

* To help conserve water, mow your lawn at a higher than normal height. Controlling thatch and soil compaction will help with absorption and limit wasted watering time.

* Use a rain gauge to measure how much water you're applying. Try not to apply more water to the lawn than what is necessary. Ideally turf should have about 1" of water per week but can stay in good shape with less.