

OWNER'S MANUAL: YOUR SEASONAL GUIDE TO A SUCCESSFUL ESTABLISHED LANDSCAPE

MARCH

- Remove leaves and debris that have collected in yard areas over the winter
- Check mulch level in planting beds and add more about every other year, preferably a hardwood mulch that does not contain colors or dyes. Mulch keeps nutrients in the soil and gives beds a polished look.

APRIL

- Trim ornamental grasses to about 6" above the ground to allow new spring growth (if not cut down already in the fall)
- Install spring annuals, if desired
- Sod can be cut and installed and/or grass seed applied to patchy areas (weather dependent); water regularly after installation

MAY

- Prune spring flowering shrubs as needed (0-3 weeks AFTER flowering or you will cut off flower buds)*
- Water established plants about once per week on average, more during dry/drought periods
- Frost period for perennials ends and perennials can be planted in ground

JUNE

- Install summer annuals, if desired. Some annuals like tropicals are best planted in June
- Tropical plants are safe to plant in containers as annuals or to bring out from inside
- Keep up with weeding this month by hand or pushing sprouts up with a rake or garden hoe. Many trees drop seeds this month, which can grow quickly, so best to pull early on.
- Apply preventative lawn treatment for grubs as needed

JULY

- Dry season begins; observe plantings for additional watering needs during summer months. Wilting leaves or crispy leaf edges can be an indication that the plants need more water.

AUGUST

- Check for patches of orange slime mold on mulch areas during humid weather conditions; bag and remove as needed

SEPTEMBER

- Aerate and overseed lawn areas as needed

OCTOBER

- Install fall annuals, if desired
- Remove fallen leaves and cut back dormant perennial foliage
- Take tropical plants you want to keep alive indoors
- Apply anti-desiccant to protect evergreens over the winter.

NOVEMBER

- Plant spring blooming bulbs like daffodils now so they can overwinter
- Continue watering plants weekly until temperatures regularly approach freezing
- Add mulch to planting beds if you didn't in spring or level is low
- Shut off outdoor water spigot at indoor valve to avoid leaks and pipe cracks

DECEMBER - FEBRUARY

- Install winter and holiday decor, if desired
- Avoid getting excess salt onto grass and planting beds; this can cause damage or death
- Use a salt alternative on wood decks and natural stone walks/patios. Standard salt can damage these porous surfaces over time.
- Heavy snow on shrubs can cause splitting branches or openings in the center of the plant, especially arborvitae and boxwood. Shake or brush off excess snow to avoid this.
- Evergreens are not dormant in winter so still need a water source, typically snow or rain. If there is a period over 2-3 weeks without precipitation, pour a bucket of ice around the base of evergreens to keep them hydrated, or some branches may brown and die come spring
- Dormant prune deciduous trees (trees that lose their leaves and go dormant for the winter) as needed*



Kemora is available to help you tackle any of the maintenance or seasonal projects mentioned above. We offer a variety of flexible maintenance options. Contact us at 773-910-1800 for a quote!

