

Helpful Landscaping Tips for this Summer

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Summertime means getting to enjoy the wonders of the outdoors with longer, brighter, and warmer days. It means colorful, vibrant flowers in full bloom and fresh, green summer lawns in perfect condition – but only if you take the necessary steps to promote healthy growth. Allow your landscape to thrive during these hot Texas summer months with these helpful landscape tips:

Color Planning and Plant Selection

Quite a few ornamentals struggle to withstand the heat of summer in Texas; however, there are still plenty of perennials that can provide a splash of color hardy enough to survive all four seasons.



When planning your summer color, consider these native varieties:

Flowers:

- Columbine
- Coreopsis
- Fall Aster
- Firebrush
- Plumbago
- Rock Rose
- Sage
- Shrimp Plant
- Geraniums
- Hibiscus
- Lantana
- Pentas
- Verbena

Shrubs:

- American Beautyberry
- Japanese Aralia
- Desert Broom
- Rosemary
- Glossy Abelia
- Bottlebrush
- Germander

Consult your landscape professional to determine the color combination that complements your property.

Irrigation and Water Conservation

Convert container plants to a drip irrigation system. Drip irrigation allows your plants to receive more water directly to the root, which also reduces waste and runoff.

Water at night rather than in the morning. Watering your plants after the sun begins to set will reduce the evaporation rate of the water, allowing more moisture to sink into the soil.

Cover the bases of plants with fresh mulch and compost. Covering roots protects against the sun and helps plants retain water.

Turn off your irrigation system when rain is in the forecast. Let Mother Nature do the work!

Make sure all irrigation controllers and heads are functioning properly. Broken sprinkler heads can leak water at a fast rate, and increased watering times in the summer leave more room for error. Hire an irrigation technician to inspect your system to prevent any unexpected issues.

Lawn Care

Many grasses can be difficult to keep green all summer, but skipping regular mowing schedules to let the grass to grow a couple centimeters longer will prevent burn. Lengthening watering times and providing shade from trees or canopies will also promote healthy growth, especially during triple-digit temperatures in August. Below are some hardier, lower-maintenance alternatives to traditional St. Augustine grass:

- Zoysia
- Buffalo
- Bermuda
- Rye

A healthy landscape is an asset that can attract residents and guests to your community. These tips will protect your plants from the harsh heat while maintaining the look of a lush, green oasis. Consult your landscape professional today to create an action plan that will help your property look its best this summer.