

Timely Turf Tips

July 2010

Garden Hoses and Sprinklers have been a tough sell these days with all the rain that's been falling. We were over three inches above our average rainfall for the month of June which is GREAT news for the trees, lawns, gardens and crops. However, it will dry out and you will need to water this month. One inch of rain per week is the standard recommendation for gardens and lawns. Use a rain gauge to measure your weekly precipitation and if it falls below the 1" marker you'll know it's time to water. Check out the coupons below for great deals on garden hoses and sprinklers! Don't have a rain gauge? We've got you covered!

Lawn Care

- Regular watering and mowing will help keep your lawn growing vigorously in summer. The thicker your lawn, the harder it is for weeds to invade and become established.
- Keep the grass 3 to 3.5 inches tall. Taller grass is more drought-tolerant and better able to compete with pests.
- Dying patches of grass that peel up easily may signal a white grub problem. Only treat if you find three or four grubs per 1 square foot of turf.

Garden Tips:

- Mulch flower and vegetable gardens to conserve water and control annual weeds.
- Side-dress tomatoes, peppers and vine plants with a complete fertilizer such as 12-6-6 Grower's Special (available at the Mill) when they start to flower and produce fruit.
- Early this month plant broccoli, cabbage or cauliflower seeds where peas, leaf lettuce or radishes were harvested.
- Stop harvesting asparagus and rhubarb so plants can build energy for next year,
- If you grow apple trees, begin a spray program for apple maggots immediately. Or hang sticky balls in the trees to fool the apple maggot flies.
- Prune summer-bearing and ever-bearing raspberry plants right after harvest. Remove all the older canes that bore fruit this summer and cut back to ground level.
- Cut back leggy hanging baskets by 1/3 and fertilize every two weeks.
- Shop for quality locally grown produce at your farmers' market.

Previous issues of Timely Turf Tips newsletters are available at our website: www.hugofeedmill.com

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Maximum value: \$5

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