

# Timely Turf Tips

## JULY 2011

**Enjoy the garden!** July is typically a month of bounty and sunshine. More vegetables are ripening, trees and shrubs are fully leafed out, and there are many flowers in bloom. During this month in the yard and garden, we may notice a small problem starting. If we catch it early we have the opportunity to be proactive and intervene. For example, small weeds can be removed before they become larger, more difficult weeds to remove. Additionally, when we notice disease or insect problems starting, we have a better chance to intervene and prevent significant spread and damage. For instance, with all this rain we've had tomatoes may start to show fungal problems like last year. Slugs, too, love this wet, cool weather and may be damaging plants such as hostas. The University of Minnesota has a wonderful gardening information website (<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/>) for help in identifying pest problems and to learn about control options for the particular pest. If you still have trouble identifying the problem and aren't sure of what to do; we can help! We have the knowledge and the products to keep your lawn and gardens performing beautifully until that first frost. Try our earth-friendly organic products (coupons below) for insect and fungal problems.

### Garden Tours

Be inspired! Garden Tours abound this month and nothing beats a stroll through someone else's garden to find encouragement and knowledge. The Mahtomedi Garden Club is featuring a tour highlighting eight striking gardens in and around Mahtomedi/Dellwood from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, July 10. Master Gardeners and club members will be on hand to answer your gardening questions. To find out more about this tour and where to purchase tickets, visit their website: <http://www.mahtomedigardenclub.org/> Additional garden tours are listed on the Northern Gardener website: <http://www.northerngardener.org/calendar/calendar-of-events>

### Yard and Garden Tips for July:

- Cut back early-blooming perennials and begin deadheading annuals for summer-long bloom.
- Side-dress tomatoes 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,
- Cut back leggy hanging baskets by 1/3 and fertilize every two weeks.
- Keep the grass 3 to 3.5 inches tall. Taller grass is more drought-tolerant and better able to compete with pests.

Previous issues of Timely Turf Tips newsletters are available at our website: [www.hugofeedmill.com](http://www.hugofeedmill.com)

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