

Mac the Gardener, Inc.
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PLANT CARE

Palms:

All palms can be fertilized 3 months after installation with Lesco's 8-10-10 tropical mix or a quality palm fertilizer specifically for Palms. When applying keep the fertilizer at least 12 inches away from the trunk of the tree as death could occur if fertilizer is put up against the trunk.

This can be repeated every 3 months for vigorous, healthy palms. If you contract a company to trim your palms make sure they sanitize their equipment tree to tree.

General trees & shrubs:

Most shrubs can be fertilized with Lesco's 14-14-14 or another brand three months after installation and every 3-4 months thereafter. In applying use the same methods as the palms in keeping fertilizer away from the plant's trunk or stem area.

Tropicals & Exotics:

Usually you can use the shrub application guidelines for the tropicals. Osmocote 12-12-12 is an excellent product but pricey. Lesco 8-10-10 works great also but a balanced fertilizer will work also.

Acid loving shrubs such as **azaleas, gardenias, and camellias**, require a fertilizer specifically designed for them. Vigoro makes an excellent product.

Always water fertilizer in with irrigation system or install it right before a rainy day.

Watering:

Watering should be done everyday for the first month after installation especially in the summer months. Very shady areas do not require as much. Cut back to twice a week or your allowed days after 30 days. **Cut off tree bubblers after 30 days!**

Irrigation Watering:

Set irrigation watering for early in the morning, 40-55 minutes per zone and preferably not at night as sometimes fungus can occur in sod especially in cool nights. Shady locations may require less water. Use good judgment during rainy seasons and if you have well draining soil or if soil holds water.

Herbicide:

30-45 days after plant installation, we recommend using the product, Preen, to help eliminate germinating weed seeds in the landscape bed. Do not sprinkle in the plants but around them. Use concentrated Round-Up for maintenance of weeds. Owner takes all responsibility of applications.

Insecticides:

An overall safe and broad spray is Neem Oil. Liquid Sevin and Orthene can also be used. Apply 3-4 times a year or as needed.

Use label rates or if unsure hire a licensed pest control professional.

Freeze Care:

If a freeze is forecasted, there are several things to do especially if you have a tropical landscape.

1. Water-in the landscape the day before the forecasted freeze. DO NOT let your irrigation come on the morning of freeze!
2. Put cloth sheets or light blankets over tender or newly planted tropicals and exotics. Plastic can be placed on the blankets to give further protection but never directly on the plants.
3. When temperature reaches 40 degrees remove blankets.
4. If you have a heated pool, run the heater all night as to produce steam. This will keep the air around the pool a couple of degrees warmer.
5. If foliage browns leave it and do not cut it back until the end of April. This will be a natural covering for future foliage and will provide warmth for the root system.

LAWN CARE

Fertilizer:

Use Scotts Bonus S every change of season with exception in the winter months. From November to March use Scotts Winterizer Bonus S.

Apply at label rates.

Insecticide:

Triazicide granules is suggested to be applied at each fertilization.

NOTE: Homeowners have the sole responsibility to maintain the trees and shrubs after installation, so if anything does not look right after installation please notify us right away.