

GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Garden Maintenance in the landscape involves:

- Weeding
- Pruning
- Watering
- Mulching
- Feeding
- Mowing and Trimming
- Pest Control General clean up

Weeding the garden

Prevention of weeds by

mulching - poisons

physical removal

correct planting techniques

Weeds weaken plants by competing with them for moisture and nutrients

Pruning the plants

Reasons for pruning:

Control or reduce size

Control shape

Control fruiting

Control flowering

Rejuvenate stunted, sick or old plants

Two types of pruning:

Dead Heading Removal of spent flowers which prolongs flowering period

Tip Pruning Remove 1-2cm of growing tips to encourage new growth

Watering the lawn and garden

Watering depends on:

Soil type

Style of garden

Weather conditions

Methods of watering:

Automatic sprinklers

Hoses

Sprinklers

Soaker hoses

Drip Watering

Drip line irrigation

Mulching the garden

Reasons for mulching

Weed control

Temperature control - insulation

Reduces erosion and runoff

Water retention

Improves structure through micro-organisms

Provides nutrients to soil - fertility

Aesthetic value

Economic value

Types of mulches:

Pine bark, straw, hay, compost, seaweed, hoop pine, bagasse, tea tree, wood chips, nut shells, manure, lignin mulch, mushroom compost, sugar cane, forest mulch, leaf litter

Feeding (Fertilising) the lawn and garden

Fertilising for plant growth

3 major elements:

- N - Nitrogen
- P - Phosphorus
- K - Potassium

Always water before and after fertilising

Mowing and trimming the lawn

Mowing

Two types: Cylinder mower, Rotary mower

Engines: Two stroke - oil mixed with petrol Four stroke - oil and petrol separate

Always care for equipment properly.

Trimming:

Hand edger, motor edger, hand shears, weed eater, brushcutter

Pest and disease control

Control of unwanted pests in garden, e.g. weeds, insects, diseases, fungi

Chemical control

Organic control

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)



General clean up of the whole landscape

Clean up of all garden areas after maintenance procedures

Blowing

Sweeping

Raking

Cleaning gutters and roofs

Removing rubbish

Possible cleaning of pools, water features, paved and deck areas