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Landscaping Tips for Spring

Put your sweaters and blankets away and dig deep into your drawer to find your landscaping clothes. It's time to feel the warm sunshine and get your hands dirty.

Add these five landscaping tips into your spring project plans to improve the appearance of your property, increase the value of your home and, best of all, win the coveted "Yard of the Month Award"!

1. Clean up.

The first thing you must do to prepare for any spring landscaping project is to clean up the lawn, beds and garden. Pick up all branches that may have fallen during the winter, leaves and debris that may be on the lawn, in the garden or beds, and clean up the area you are preparing to work with.

2. Plant and feed.

If you plan on planting new grass seed or installing sod, make sure you do not apply any pre-emergent with the early spring lawn treatment. Just apply a balanced organic based fertilizer in these areas.

For plants and garden vegetables, make sure the soil is in the proper condition for planting. Add organic matter or compost to the soil at the time of planting to improve soil structure and promote deeper roots. This will mean less stress from insects, disease and heat. It'll also result in a lower water bill, as you'll need to water these areas less.



3. Sharpen your mower blades.

Sharpening your mower blades will help you cut the grass instead of tearing it. Tearing the grass blades can cause an unsightly tan or brown color to a freshly cut lawn. It also causes stress to the lawn and promotes fungus development.

4. Set a higher mowing height.

Make sure to mow your grass high. For cool-season grasses, such as bluegrass or fescues, the height should be 2-1/2 to 4 inches high after being cut.

3. Mulch.

Apply a 4-inch layer of fresh mulch over all beds to help reduce the amount of weeds that will pop up. Hand pull or carefully spray a glyphosate product such as Roundup on any weeds that have emerged after mulching. If you'd like to use a natural non-selective weed control, then try using a vinegar or citrus oil based product. Be very careful not to spray any desirable plants though.



Covenant Corner 2018

- ⇒ As we approach the Summer season, bears will be in the area looking for food. **Please refrain from placing trash containers out the night before pickup.**
- ⇒ Section 128 of the Green Valley Ranch Covenants state that "Trash Containers' are to be placed on the curb the day of pick up only. Trash containers must be stored so as not to be visible from any neighboring property or street **EXCEPT** during refuse collection days.
- ⇒ If you plan to change the paint color or roof color on your residence, you will need to get approval from the HOA prior to work commencing. The GVRHOA Board continues to keep color schemes in harmony with colors that currently exist within the community. Please have your colors reviewed before painting your home. GVRHOA requires 7 days to review your color schemes prior to Board approval.
- ⇒ Now is an excellent time to trim your trees/bushes in your front yard. GVRHOA is contacting the City of Colorado Springs to schedule a pick-up date for tree trimmings. We'll keep you posted once the pick-up date is confirmed.
- ⇒ Rock used for landscaping in front yard areas require weed control. Please spray landscaped areas for weeds before they begin to grow. It is your responsibility to control weeds on your property.
- ⇒ Section 135 of the GVR Covenants state that "No vehicles of any type shall be parked overnight on any street in the subdivision". Realizing this presents a problem when guests arrive, the GVR Covenant Committee provides Overnight Parking Permits for a limited number of days and times throughout the year. If needed, please feel free to contact Jeff Voltattorni (GVRCC Member) at 528-6248 for a permit.
- ⇒ Final Note: We are a single family dwelling community. Any attempts to rent/lease a portion of your residence to non-family members is in violation of the Green Valley Ranch Covenants under Section 101.

NOTICE:

During the month of March, the GVRHOA received phone calls from residents within our community reporting a strong consistent odor of marijuana in the neighborhood. The GVRHOA located the residence the odor was coming from and immediately notified the Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD).

On Friday, April 13th, the CSPD along with a Colorado Springs narcotics unit raided a home within our community and found the residents to have an illegal marijuana growing operation. The growing operation was dismantled and an arrest warrant may be issued for the homeowner.

The GVRHOA will not tolerate this activity within our community. We ask all residents to be alert to potentially illegal actions taking place in their area. Things to look for include:

- * Newly installed vent pipes in odd locations on the residence
- * A strong persistent odor of marijuana coming from a residence
- * Different vehicles visiting the residence on a regular basis

If you suspect illegal activities, please contact the CSPD at (719) 444-7000. If you're interested in joining the Neighborhood Watch, please contact Sue Roth at (719) 594-9878 or sktrothco@comcast.net.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Click on event name to visit website

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
April 21	GotG Earth Day Celebration	<i>Garden of the Gods Visitor & Nature Center</i>
April 21	Great American Cleanup	<i>Bear Creek Nature Center, Colorado Springs</i>
April 28	GameCon X	<i>Rampart High School, Colorado Springs</i>
April 27-29	Monster Jam	<i>Broadmoor World Arena, Colorado Springs</i>
May 3	8th Annual Chef Showcase	<i>Olympic Training Center, Colorado Springs</i>
May 4	First Friday Downtown	<i>Downtown Colorado Springs</i>
May 5	Fountain Creek Family Fun Day	<i>Fountain Creek Nature Center, Fountain</i>
May 9	COS Outdoor Sports & Rec Expo	<i>Ivywild School Auditorium, Colorado Springs</i>
May 12	Old Colorado City in Bloom	<i>Old Colorado City</i>
May 12-13	KoboldCon Gaming Convention	<i>Chapel Hills Mall, Colorado Springs</i>
May 19	Run to the Shrine	<i>Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Colorado Springs</i>
May 26-28	43rd Annual Territory Days	<i>Old Colorado City</i>
June 1	First Friday Downtown	<i>Downtown Colorado Springs</i>
June 2	2018 Manitou Springs Colorado Wine Festival	<i>Memorial Park, Manitou Springs</i>
June 9	The Colorado Mud Run	<i>Ram Off Road Park, Colorado Springs</i>
June 17	WestFest	<i>Bancroft Park, Old Colorado City</i>
June 30—July 1	Colorado Springs Art and Music Festival	<i>America the Beautiful Park, Colorado Springs</i>



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Welcome!

Please join us in welcoming the newest member of the HOA Board, Joseph Kalis. He'll be available for photo ops and auto-graphs at upcoming neighborhood events.

Upcoming Neighborhood Events

Potluck in the Park

Saturday, May 19th (weather permitting)
Pinon Valley Park, Pavilion

Ice Cream Social

Saturday, June 23rd

** Additional info will be sent by email prior to events.*





Spring

BUDS
DAFFODILS
FLOWERS
GRASS
RAIN

RAINBOW
SEEDS
SPRING
TULIPS
UMBRELLA

G	F	S	Q	O	I	I	S	L	S	U	R
E	D	U	R	Y	G	N	D	M	B	K	V
B	T	A	P	T	I	Q	E	K	D	I	F
S	K	N	F	A	G	H	E	H	P	B	C
P	T	D	R	F	B	W	S	Q	P	R	J
I	S	R	E	W	O	L	F	D	T	L	S
L	F	H	Z	F	G	D	S	A	N	U	M
U	X	U	U	F	R	R	I	D	J	T	Z
T	H	C	U	Z	A	J	A	L	U	T	V
U	M	B	R	E	L	L	A	S	S	B	M
B	N	S	M	G	N	I	R	P	S	M	K
R	A	I	N	B	O	W	D	J	A	C	P

