

Timely Tips for June Gardeners from Calloway's and Cornelius

Summertime activities are getting into full swing and so is everything at Calloway's and Cornelius. Take advantage of the longer days by enjoying your gardening in the morning or evening when the temperature is not at its peak and it is more pleasant to be outside.

June weather means grass will be growing faster, too. Keep up with the mowing so you don't have to bag the clippings. That may mean mowing every 5 or 6 days instead of every 7 to 10 days. Letting the clippings fall back into the lawn recycles nutrients, but does not promote thatch. Mowing frequently at the correct height will promote a healthy, thick turf that is resistant to weeds.

As Spring rains subside and give way to drier days, apply supplemental water as needed. The rule of thumb is to water enough to wet the soil 5 to 6 inches deep. However, try not to water too much. Frequent surface watering promotes a shallow root system that is more susceptible to the stress of Summer heat.

The best way to conserve moisture in the landscape is by mulching. A 3 to 4 inch layer over the root zone retains moisture, keeps the soil cooler, and helps prevent weed seeds from germinating under shrubs, trees, and flowers. You'll find a variety of great mulches like Calloway's Shredded Hardwood Mulch and Calloway's Cedar Mulch.

June is a great month for colorful Summer annuals. In a sunny location try Marigolds, Salvia, Periwinkles, Dusty Miller, Crotons, and Lantana to add a pop of color. Caladiums, Coleus, Impatiens, and Begonias are a great choice for shady areas.

Summer tropical plants are perfectly at home in our Texas heat and humidity. Stunning Hibiscus, Esperanza, and Plumbago are available at Calloway's and Cornelius. Plant them in the ground for quick growth or in pots or tubs so they can be moved indoors easily when temperatures fall.