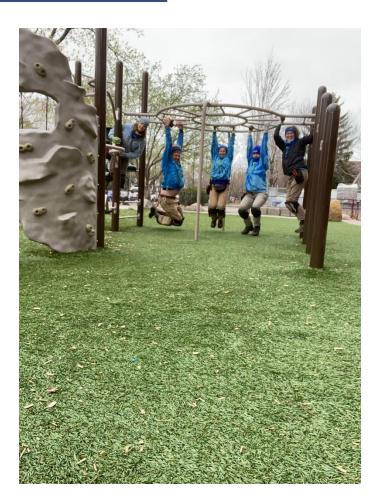
SPRING CLEAN UP

Home Sown Gardens Training

APRIL – Spring Cleanup CELEBRATE A NEW YEAR!!



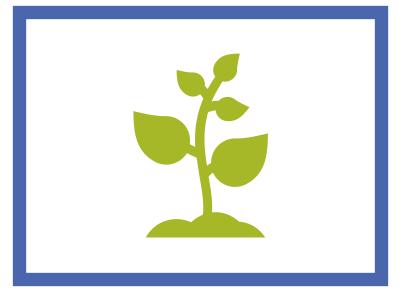
Welcome back!!



HOME SOWN
GARDENS.

POP QUIZ







Maintenance – Year Round Care of Landscape

Gardens

3 MAIN CATEGORIES OF CARE?

- PLANT CARE
- •GENERAL GARDEN CARE
- PRESENTATION





Things change rapidly in spring







Horticulture Basics

Annual

Cannot survive the winter Needs to be replanted every year

Perennial

Goes dormant in the winter Grows from the same base every year

Biennial

Lives two growing seasons

Does die out after second season,
but often reseeds itself

Decidious

Woody stems
Snap like twigs

Herbacious

Soft, flexible stems Bend easily





o Latin name is **UNIVERSAL**

o Common name VARIES





Maintenance – Spring Cleanup

3 MAIN CATEGORIES OF CARE:

- PLANT CARE
- •GENERAL GARDEN CARE
- PRESENTATION







Maintenance – Spring Cleanup

PLANT CARE

Different plant types



Perennials

Grasses

Vines

Shrubs

Evergreens

Ornamental Trees

Annuals/Veggies/Herbs/Bulbs







Perennials/Grasses

APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Vines

Remove insulation, if not already

Prune dead

Cut back

Plant

Train

Deadhead

Fertilize

Deadleaf

Insulate



Cut back tall ornamental grasses.

Remove Insulation, if not already

Cut back, down dead

Clean Bases

Aerate

Replant

Lift/Uncover (tubers)

Stake/Support

Split/Transplant

Plant

Deadhead

Fertilize

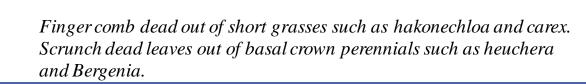
Prune dead

Pinch buds

Pinch for height

Cut back (for new flush)

Cut back (end of season)



Every plant, every visit

- Every plant, shrub, groundcover, etc. should be touched.
- Introduce yourself. Ask what they need from you today from the Spring Cleanup menu.
- Push aside foliage, lift and look under, around, behind, between plants and other structures



APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Remove insulation, if not already

- Straw from the bases.
- Burlap wrapping

• Tree wrap

Why? Risk of freezing at night and warm during the day is minimal.

Remove protection, if risk of damage is minimal

- Chicken wire fencing
- Stakes & Chicken wire may be stored by the client.

Why? Critters will soon have other things to chow on.



APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Prune dead?

Vines

Why? Remove unsightly dead foliage that can attract unwanted pests.

- Clematis case by case to cut back
- No pruning dead until new growth usually late April/early May on all vines





APRIL – Spring Cleanup
PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Cut back, cut down

Cut down and clean out ornamental grass to

• 6-9" or above new growth.

Use fingers to comb out and dig dead out of centers

Cut down perennials that are obviously spent.

OMost cut back to o-3" or to the level of new growth

Why? Remove user to

Why? Remove unsightly dead foliage that can attract unwanted pests.
Allows new growth to come in unemcumbered





APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Cut back, cut down

EXCEPTION to cutting down

Short Fescue and Japanese Forest Grasses (Hakonechloa) should only be finger combed

Why? Some of the foliage can be evergreen and come back. "

everyieer who controlled by finger dead, it can be removed by







APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Cut back, cut down?

EXCEPTION to cutting down

• FERNS

Think forest floor...)

 leave to decompose unless in rock or mulch or client prefers otherwise





Every plant, every visit

Cut back, cut down?



EXCEPTION to cutting down

RUSSIAN SAGE

• They all get a late start.

• They can bloom on old wood.

 They look dead, but are really just still dormant.

 No pruning dead until new growth - usually mid May+

Why? Removing stems too soon can reduce blooms. Old stems are stronger than new stems; we want a mix of both.



Every plant, every visit

EXCEPTION to cutting down

Cut back, cut down?

- HARDY HIBISCUS, PERENNIAL MUMS
 - They get a late start.
 - They do best if not cut back until new growth starts.
 - Hibiscus can even be mid June!

Why? Provides protection and is a location marker.







Every plant, every visit

EXCEPTION to cutting down

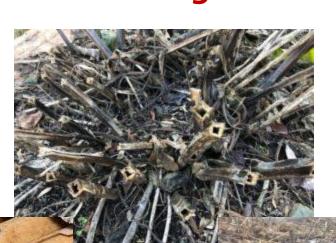
Cut back, cut down

HOLLOWSTEMS

• Asiatic Lily and Baptisia and other hollow stemmed perennials should be left for the native bees until May.

 They can be cut back and left flat stacked in a neat pile. Not all need to be left.

Why? Removing the stems removes the eggs from the site before they hatch, reducing that local population.





Every plant, every visit

Clean Bases Push Mulch Back from Base





Why? Remove unsightly dead foliage that can attract unwanted pests. Allows unencumbered growth. Helps prevent rotting and disease.





APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Deadleaf/Finger-Comb/Scrunch

Basal Crown Perennial Examples:

Heuchera

Pulmonaria

Alchemilla

Geranium

Brunnera

Basal Crown Perennial Care

- All the growth comes from a central "crown"
- Mature plant is mound shaped
- Ornamental foliage as well as flowers.
- Needs its foliage as a warm blanket in winter
- Scrunch to clean up spent foliage but treat the base gently. Don't tug or tear at it or cut it off.



Why? Some of the foliage can be evergreen and come back. Once dead, it can be removed by finger





Every plant, every visit

Deadleaf/Finger-Comb/Scrunch





Evergreen Perennial Examples:

Hellebore

Brunnera

Stachys

Euphorbia

Bergenia

Epimedium

Asarum

Evergreen Perennial Care

- Doesn't lose its leaves in the winter.
- Similar to basal crown perennials they need their bases treated gently.
- Scrunch or specifically trim out dead foliage to clean up.

Why? Some of the foliage can be evergreen and come back. Once dead, it can be removed by finger



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Every plant, every visit

Creeping Perennial Examples: Pachysandra

Vinca

Creeping Phlox

Creeping Sedum

Dianthus

Aerate

• Creeping Perennials can be "fluffed" - lightly raked with a long rake or claw, finger combed, or scrunched.

• Cut dead out next month after they've had a chance to

leaf out more.

Why? Allows air circulation to prevent
Why? Allows air circulation to prevent
watting and eventual rotting.

matting and eventual rotting.

matting and eventual rotting.

allows light to the lower leaves.

Allows water to pass through easier.

Allows water to pass through that can

Allows water to pass through easier.







Every plant, every visit

Replant

New previous fall plantings and basal crown perennials are especially susceptible



Why? Shallow or unestablished roots can pop up out of the soil as they freeze and thaw.





Every plant, every visit

Uncover (rhizomes)

- Remove soil and mulch from tops of Bearded Iris rhizomes as needed to keep them exposed to sunlight and air.
 - Lift as needed to be slightly above soil level.
 - If plant already has more than 4" of growth, wait until after bloom July/August.

Why? Below ground creates a moist environment that allows rotting and iris borer pests.





Yes!



Every plant, every visit

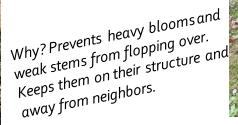
Stake/Support

Commonly supported:

- Hydrangea
- Peony
- Baptisia

Train Clematis and other vines by securing with Velcro tape, ties, etc.









APRIL – Spring Cleanup PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Split/Transplant

 Divide, thin or shrink bases of grasses, perennials as needed/requested not done in fall.

- A large plant that is dead in the center is a red flag that it needs splitting.
- If taller than 3-4", evaluate whether better left until fall

Why? Boosts plant health, propagates roots, removes dead/dying centers (and potential rot), makes more plants!

Commonly split in spring: Calamagrostis (grass) Miscanthus (grass) Hemerocallis (daylily)

> Hosta Sedum









THIS OR THAT





Toilet paper over or under?

Cake or pie?

Milkshake or malt?

Snowball or balloon fight?

Gloves or Mittens?



Ornamental Trees

Remove insulation/protection

Prune dead

Limb up

Stake

Prune

Fertilize

Plant

Protect

Insulate

APRIL – Spring Cleanup SHRUB/TREE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit



Remove insulation/protection

Prune

Deadleaf/needle

Clean Bases

Stake/Support

Aerate

Plant

Deadhead

Fertilize

Protect

Insulate





Every plant, every visit

Remove insulation, if not already

- Straw from the bases.
- Burlap wrapping

• Tree wrap

Why? Risk of freezing at night and warm during the day is minimal.

Remove protection, if risk of damage is minimal

- Chicken wire fencing
- Stakes & Chicken wire may be stored by the client.

Why? Critters will soon have other things to chow on.





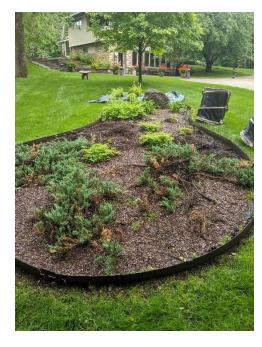
Every plant, every visit

Prune dead

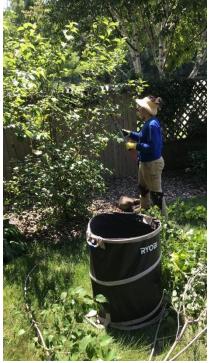
- Cleanout/prune specific shrubs to thin/reduce height
 - Spirea
 - Push in all 4 directions; dead snaps off
 - Potentilla
 - Barberry
 - Currant

Why? Plant health, growth habits, training, and aesthetics. Allows air and light in and creates space for new growth from the ground.

- General rule
 - take out all dead and damaged branches all the way to the base.
 - Thin the volume by 1/3.
 - Shorten the height by 1/3.









Every plant, every visit

Prune Prune dead

- Prune non-spring flowering deciduous shrubs and vines (that were not done while dormant)
 - Ex Burning Bush, Dogwood, Tamarisk, Willows, Hazelnut,
 Ha Winterberry, Coralberry, Snowberry, St Johns Wort, Barberry,
 Classification
 Summersweet, Cotoneaster, Smokebush, Ninebark
 - Leads will direct shrub pruning
 - Considerations:
 - Diseased, dead or crossing branches
 - Remove 1/4 to 1/3 of oldest canes
 - "Poke holes" as needed for light and air circulation
 - Size and aesthetics





Prune?

Every plant, every visit

• **DO NOT** prune spring flowering shrubs

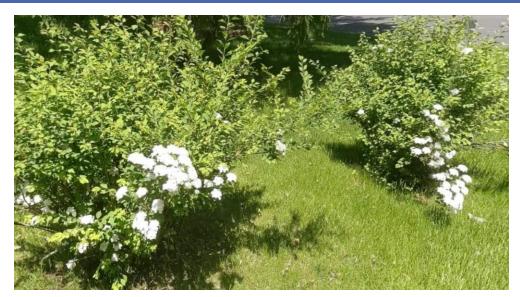




Lilac
Mock Orange
Viburnum
Bridal Wreath Spirea
Weigela
Forsythia
Serviceberry
Other fruit-bearing



Why? Pruning now will remove flower buds





Every plant, every visit

3 Types of Hydrangea

o Arborescens – blooms on new wood

Remove dead stalks

Deadhead

Prune

primarily

done in

Cut back 2/3 of stalks to ground

Cut back remaining 1/3 of stalks to 10", 12", 18" for support

o Macrophylla – blooms on new and old wood

- Remove dead stalks
- Deadhead

Paniculata - blooms on new wood

- Cut back height by 1/3
- Deadhead
- Thin ¼ to 1/3 of oldest to the ground (shrub form)
- o "Poke holes" as needed in tree form

New wood – that years growth Old wood – prior years growth





dormancy (Feb|Mar)

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Every plant, every visit

Prune?

Evergreen Shrubs - conifers

- Only clean out debris from branches and bases
- WAIT to prune once danger of frost is past, usually not until 2nd visit, Mid May or later)



Why? More susceptible to die back with fresh cuts if frost/freezing overnight.
Winter burn may correct itself.

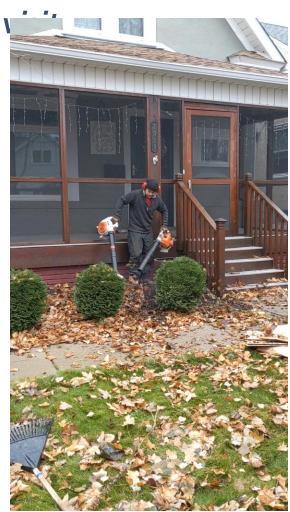


Every plant, every

Deadleaf/needle

- Evergreens should be raked or shaken out to remove debris from branches and underneath
- Combo of blowing, raking and hand picking may be needed
- Start at the top

Why? Gives new needles room to grow, prevents rotting, reduces critters nesting.







Every plant, every visit

Clean Bases



Why? Remove unsightly dead foliage that can attract unwanted pests. Allows unencumbered growth. Helps prevent rotting and disease.

Need a combo of hand picking, blowing, and raking



Every plant, every visit

Stake/Support

Install stakes to straighten a tree



Why? Supports while strengthening to grow upright.



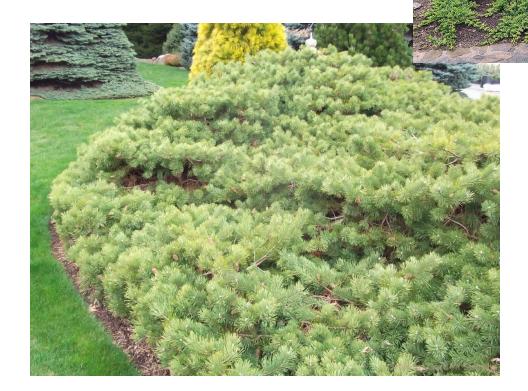


Every plant, every visit

Aerate

Creeping Evergreens can be "fluffed" - lightly raked with a long rake or claw, or lifted and shook out.

Why? Allows air circulation to prevent
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and eventual rotting.
matting and eventual rotels.
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Allows light to the lower levels.
Allows water to pass through easier.
Allows water to pass through can
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Allows water to pass through can
Allows water to pass through easier.
Allows water to pass through easier.
Allows air circulation to prevent

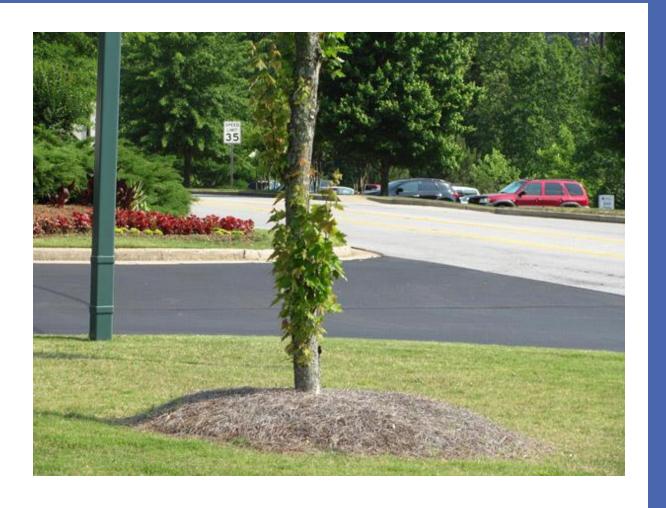




Every plant, every visit

Limb up/remove suckers





Why? Prevents tree from wasting energy. Aesthetics. Promotes good growth habits.



Every plant, every visit

ROSES

- Lift/uncover/untip non-hardy roses
- Best to wait to prune until next month when danger of frost past and new growth is seen

Why? More susceptible to die back with fresh cuts if frost/freezing overnight.

Greens from the bottom up.





THIS OR THAT





Hard or soft shell tacos?

Cat or dog?

Love or money?

Frozen yogurt or custard?

Fruits or vegetables?



Annuals/Veggies/Herbs/Bulbs

APRIL – Spring Clean ANNUALS, ETC. PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit



Clearing beds now and amending soil is a great set-up for planting next month. Cool season seeds can be direct sowed.



Spring Containers are installed mid month

Clean out containers/replace soil as needed Plant spring hardy annuals, veggies, herbs

Deadhead/Deadleaf

Fertilize Harvest Pinch



APRIL – Spring Clean ANNUALS, ETC. PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Clean out containers/replace soil as needed

- Remove all evergreens, sticks that look bad and Christmasy/wintry looking décor like bells, pinecones, and anything red. Leave birch and any sticks that still look good. Leave eucalyptus if it looks good. If it looks brown or crunchy, remove.
- If items are still frozen in the soil, use loppers or pruners to cut out things to remove. Cut them off as close to soil level as possible.

Why? Have something nice to look at until spring flowers installed. Prevent mess as dies and falls.



APRIL – Spring Clean ANNUALS, ETC. PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Plant spring hardy annuals, veggies, herbs

 This is typically done by Seasonal Service department







Maintenance – Spring Cleanup

3 MAIN CATEGORIES OF CARE:

- •PLANT CARE
- •GENERAL GARDEN CARE
- PRESENTATION





Every element, every visit

Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed

Soil
Amend
Fill holes
Redistribute

Edges

Rake

Hardscape

Lift stones Uncover edges Ditch/Cut Lift



Majority, but not all leaves need to be removed. Edges are cleared, raised, cut and raked.

Cover unsightly weed barrier

Redistribute
Push back from bases
Add

Mulch

Other
Remove debris
Pick up sticks, etc.



Every element, every visit

Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed



Lawn coming in the garden edges is one of the first "weeds".

- Others common at spring cleanup
 - Dandelions
 - Clover
 - Creeping Charlie
 - Tree Seedlings





Every element, every visit

Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed

- Use a trowel or shovel.
- Get as much root as possible.
- Just pulling tops off is making it worse, not better.
- Some roots (especially tap roots) propagate when cut. Give a wide berth.
 - Ex: dandelion, thistle



Every element, every visit

Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed



- Train your eyes to see volunteer trees and weeds in shrubs/plants. Easiest to see and remove in the spring when they are small.
 - Different bark on volunteer trees.
 - Different leaf color, shape
- If it cannot be removed, only cut back, be sure to mark the location of it in client notes to cut it back at each maintenance visit.





APRIL-Spring Cleanup

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Every element, every visit
Creeping Bellflower

Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed Weed



Tuberous roots deep underground that propagate when cut.

Fibrous roots near the surface trick you into thinking you eradicated it.

When observed, always ALWAYS use a large shovel to loosen all the surrounding soil and then sift tubers out with your fingers/pitchfork.

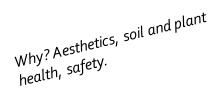


Soil
Amend
Fill holes
Redistribute



Every element, every visit

Re-spread soil as needed for consistent cover, cover irrigation hoses, weed barrier, aesthetics.









APRIL- Spring Cleanup

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Every element, every visit

Hardscape
Lift stones
Uncover edges

- Lift and/orflip stone pavers, etc. as needed to re-level and resurface.
- Uncover sunken stones and blocks.

Why? Compensates for sinking and prevents from settling too quickly.







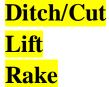


APRIL-Spring Cleanup

Why? Servers the roots of the lawn to keep it from creeping into the garden beds. Gives the mulch/soil a place to settle. Looks great!

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Every element, every visit





- Push mulch back so you can reuse it at the end.
- Cut a seam ~3" deep along the edge of the garden bed
- Spread soil out into the garden bed to smooth
 - Good thing you pushed the mulch out of the way!
- Recover with mulch up to the beginning of the edge, leaving space for it to settle naturally.







APRIL-Spring Cleanup

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Every element, every visit



- Push mulch back from edges, off of pavers, plastic tubing, etc.
- Cut on the lawn side to sever roots using the serrated edge of a trowel or a long handled edger.
- Create a small channel on the inside edge with trowel at a 45 degree angle.
- Lawn side should be raked at least 1 rake width, more if we blew debris out of the beds.









Edges

Ditch/Cut

Lift

Rake

Every element, every visit

• Remove/Transplant plants that are too close to the edge





APRIL- Spring Cleanup

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Mulch Redistribute

Every element, every visit

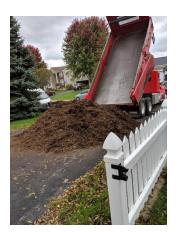
Push back from bases

Add

• Re-spread mulch as needed for consistent cover, cover irrigation hoses, weed barrier, aesthetics.

Rocks, mulch, and soil build-up should be moved at least

an inch away from all plant bases









Other

Every element, every visit

Remove debris
Pick up sticks, etc.

- Check corners of beds, behind or between landscape décor like boulders, etc for debris build up. Removing these little clumps and piles makes a big difference.
- As you finish a bed, review it for any bits and bobs of debris that may be left behind. Individual stalks of tall grasses are a particular eyesore.
- Make it look nice and tidy.
- Remove leaves, sticks, fallen branches, trash and any other debris.

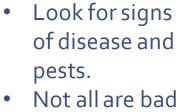




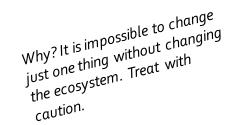


Every element, every visit

Pest/Disease **Monitor Treat**



- We practice monitoring and tolerance











JUST DANCE









Maintenance – Spring Cleanup

3 MAIN CATEGORIES OF CARE:

- PLANT CARE
- •GENERAL GARDEN CARE
- PRESENTATION





EVERY VISIT – Maintenance

PRESENTATION CARE

Every element, every visit

General Aesthetics

Site is neat, clean and something you're proud of

Tools removed

Debris bags stacked neatly

Trash picked up









EVERY VISIT – Maintenance PRESENTATION CARE

Every element, every visit

Site is neat, clean and something you're proud of





Details matter
Take the client's perspective



EVERY VISIT – Maintenance

PRESENTATION CARE

Every element, every visit

Tools removed

No tool left behind No stealing pets

How do we prevent leaving tools behind?









EVERY VISIT – Maintenance PRESENTATION CARE

Every element, every visit

Debris bags stacked neatly

Debris bags are in place of client preference

Debris onsite is out of sight as much as possible

When leaving debris on site, take out used bags for that site. Save new packs of bags for reuse situations.





EVERY VISIT – Maintenance

PRESENTATION CARE

Every element, every visit

Trash picked up

Even if it is not yours...

Even if it was there when you got there...

Even if you can't comprehend...

Even if it is gross...

PICK IT UP







EVERY VISIT – Maintenance

PRESENTATION CARE

Every element, every visit

Hard Surfaces aesthetics

- All boulders, sidewalks, block edges, paver paths, driveway, steps, art, etc. need to be cleared at the end of every visit.
- Blow, sweep, or combo

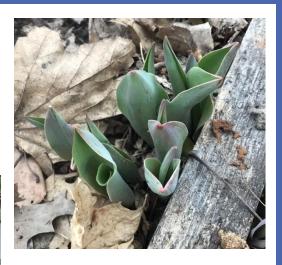






Every element, every visit





Keep an eye out for:

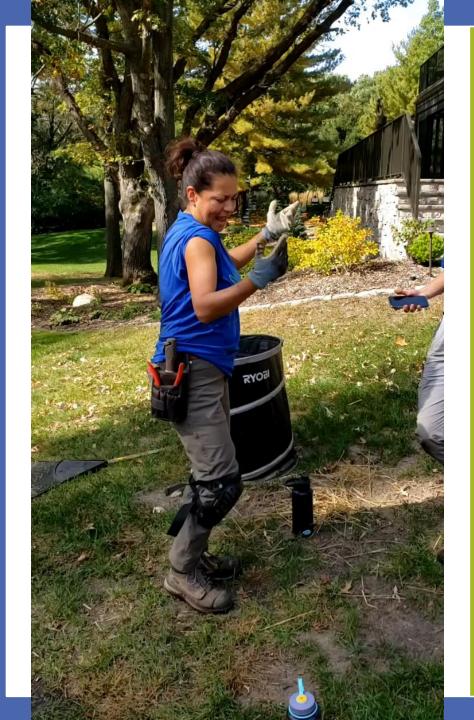
- Bulbs pushing up
- Décor items
- Loose rocks
 - Boulder walls
 - Pavers
 - Edging
- Muddy hands



- Avoid compacting soil
 - Only walking in garden beds when working in the garden beds, use pathways to get from place to place.



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CELEBRATE A JOBWELL DONE!

APRIL – Spring Cleanup

☐ Remove insulation	☐ Split/Transplant
☐ Prune	☐ Clean out containers
☐ Prune dead	☐ Weed
☐ Cut back/cut down dead	☐ Redistribute Soil and Mulch
☐ Deadleaf/needle	☐ Remove leaves, sticks, other debris
☐ Clean Bases	☐ Ditch or Cut Edges
☐ Push Mulch back from Bases	☐ Lift Sunken Stones, Pavers
☐ Stake/Support	☐ Uncover Stepping Stones and Edges
☐ Aerate	☐ Monitor for Pests/Diseases
☐ Limb up	☐ Pick up Trash
☐ Uncover (rhizomes)	☐ Replant Heaved

TASK LIST



APRIL – Spring Cleanup

General Aesthetics

Site is neat, clean and something you're proud of

Tools removed

Debris bags stacked neatly

Trash picked up

Vines

Remove insulation, if not already

Prune dead

Cut back

Annuals/Veggies/Herbs/Bulbs

Clean out containers/replace soil as needed

Plant spring hardy annuals, veggies, herbs

Weed Weed Weed

Weed Weed Weed

Shrubs/Evergreens

Remove insulation

Prune

Deadleaf/needle

Clean Bases

Stake/Support

Aerate

Perennials/Grasses

Remove Insulation, if not already

Cut back, down dead

Clean Bases

Aerate

Replant

Uncover (tubers)

Stake/Support

Split/Transplant

Soil

Amend

Fill holes

Redistribute

Mulch

Redistribute

Push back from bases

Add

Other

Remove debris

Pick up sticks, etc.

Edges

Ditch/Cut

Lift

Rake

Hardscape

Lift stones

Uncover edges

Pest/Disease

Monitor

Treat



Ornamental Trees

Remove insulation

Prune dead

Limb up