MAY'S ORGANIC PLANNING GUIDE

PLANT:

- **Annuals & Tropicals-**Shade begonias, coleus, caladiums, impatiens, splash, torenia, etc. for areas with morning sun/shade; sun begonias, zinnias, pentas, scaevola, periwinkles, angelonia, celosia, marigolds, sweet potato vine, petunia, celosia, alyssum, purslane, bougainvillea, hibiscus, and more for sunny spots.
- **Perennials-**Lantana, coreopsis, artemesia, loosestrife, lilies, salvia, gaura, Mexican petunia, scabiosa, coneflower, blackfoot daisy, gaillardia, verbena, sedum, coral bells, oxalis, lamium, hostas, fern, etc.
- **Herbs and Warm-season vegetables (okra, southern peas, sweet potatoes)**
- **Roses** (**EarthKind & Knockout Roses** are drought tolerant and insect/disease resistant).
- **Trees, shrubs, vines, groundcover** (Hand watering is a must through summer)
- **Plant Bermuda (seed or sod) or St. Augustine (sod)**.

PRUNE:

- **Spring flowering vines and shrubs** after they've finished blooming to maintain natural shape.
- **Leggy plants** to encourage lateral branching (impatiens, begonias, coleus, mums, etc.)
- **Trees** to remove dead/damaged growth and to allow more sun on lawn (for Oaks, wait until mid-summer to reduce spread of oak wilt disease. If you must prune, use pruning paint on cuts.)
- **Mow lawn** at recommended height (1½" for Bermuda; 2-2½" for St. Augustine). Not more than 1/3 of grass height at one time.

FERTILIZE:

- Newly planted trees and shrubs with **Nature's Guide Root Stimulator** every 2-3 weeks to help prevent transplant shock, increase beneficial microorganisms, and encourage root development.
- Trees, shrubs, flowers, perennials, use **Nature's Guide Natural Blooms** or **Happy Frog Rose Food**.
- Use **Nature's Guide Corn Gluten Meal 9-0-0** to feed turf and prevent weeds this spring. Corn Gluten Meal is great in vegetable gardens as well to prevent weeds. Also, spread **Dry Molasses** to enhance weed control.
- Plants that aren't thriving with **Nature's Guide Tree Therapy** w/corn meal, molasses, greensand, etc.
- Bermuda and St. Augustine with **Nature's Guide 4-3-2 Poultry Based Formula**.
- Add **Texas Greensand** for deep greening in lawns, trees and landscape plants.

BE ON WATCH:

- For bugs & fungus use **ferti.lome Triple Action** which contains Neem Oil, an all-purpose organic remedy. Use **Bonide All Seasons** on plants susceptible to scale (holly, euonymus, crape myrtle, shade/fruit trees)
- Use **Horticultural Corn Meal** on Bermuda and St. Augustine grass for disease control.
- Use **Sluggo Plus with Spinosad** to control slugs, snails & pillbugs on flowers and foliage.
- Apply **Nature's Guide Garrett Juice** once a month to your landscape to increase beneficial micro-organisms in the soil and to reduce the need for water.
- Spot treat grassy and broadleaf weeds with **Nature's Guide 20% Vinegar. Add 2 oz of Orange Oil per gallon** to enhance the kill on weeds and grasses.
- Spray **ferti.lome Fruit Tree Spray** for insect problems on fruit trees.
- Top dress landscape and flower beds with at least a 2 inch layer of **mulch** to help retain moisture.

WATER:

- Container plants, flower beds, shrubs & trees as needed to keep healthy and reduce winter damage.
- Trees installed for less than two years must have special care to ensure a strong and healthy root system. See our Plant Article on Tree Care for the First Two Years on our website or come by and pick one up.

We're open 7 days a week to serve you!

Covington's can delivery and plant your new trees for you…let us know if you want details.

For a professional landscape design and installation, call our Landscape Services team at (972) 475-5888 Ext. 5. Call now if you want your new landscape installed in time to enjoy this summer!