

## **Planting You in the Right Direction**

Thank you again for choosing Lichtenberg Landscaping. **This is just a friendly reminder to water your plants during the hot and dry summer days.** Even plants a few years old it's a good idea to keep water on them during the dog days of summer.

Especially do not forget plants installed earlier this year, the spring rains may have given them a good start, but to ensure healthy plants they must have water throughout the year. Please follow the watering instructions below and call if you have any questions regarding the maintenance of your plants.

**Watering:** Water is the most important element to keep any new landscape looking great. Making sure the roots of each plant has adequate moisture during the first year is key. As your plants mature they may need additional water during the hot, dry summer months, especially in July and August. At this time watering once or twice a week will greatly benefit your plants. It is also a good idea to have your plants well watered late in the fall each year; this enables your plants to winter over better.

At times rainfall is adequate for watering, other times the rain isn't enough to water the root system. Always check around the base of the plant for the moisture content of soil before watering. You can do this by squeezing a handful of soil: if the soil crumbles you need to water, if the soil holds together you can wait to water.

It is important to water the root ball of the plant, not the foliage as much. This is best done with a watering wand at the end of your hose. The wand allows the water to evenly soak into the root system; it also saves your back a bit from bending so much. Be sure the water isn't just running around the root ball and into the bed, especially on trees and larger shrubs. Move the watering wand around each side of the plant as you water. If the mulch begins to wash away move to the next plant and then go back to finish watering the previous plant. Do not use a lawn sprinkler in most cases because they tend to only water the foliage of the plant and not the root system well enough, causing the foliage to be scorched by the sun.

Shrubs: Water around the base of each plant for 20-30 second.

Trees: Water around the base of each plant for 4-5 minutes.

Perennials & Groundcovers: Water around the base of each plant for 5-10 seconds.

**During the hot, dry summer days water twice a week.** Continue to water once a week through September. When watering be sure the water is infiltrating down into the soil and root ball of the plant. **The best time of the day to water is early morning**, next best time is later in the evening hours. Watering during the day is better than not watering at all.

**Protect your investment and keep your landscape lush for your enjoyment. Thank you.**