

Top Ten List – April

1. **Water everything** in the yard at least once or twice a week this month. Even if we get some April showers, your plants will need the additional water, since the plant's are leafing out.
2. **Aerate** the lawn now and apply a topdressing, such as **Paydirt, Gypsum, and Master Green Lawn Fertilizer** or **EB Organics Natural Green Lawn Food** for spectacular results.
3. **Mulch** around all your plants with **Bumper Crop Soil Conditioner** or **Protect** to retain moisture. Just a 3" layer can save 20-30 gallons of water a day on every large shrub or tree. Always water between 1am and 10am – never between noon and 8am – to prevent lawn and plant fungus disease.
4. **Fertilize the lawn**, vegetables, trees and shrubs. Greenhouse Garden Center carries many product options, both organic and synthetic.
5. Spray your apple and pear trees with **Captain Jack's Deadbug Brew** or **Bonide Fruit Tree Spray** after your apple trees have dropped 80% of their blossoms, so you are not getting those pesky worms in your fruit. Spray one time a week for 3 weeks. **Codling Moth Traps** may be rehung after that and will serve as an indicator for codling moth activity later in the season. Codling moths may go through 4-6 life cycles in 1 season.
6. **Wall O' Waters** need to go up. Plant tomatoes and peppers one week later, and after the soil temperature has warmed up inside the **Wall O' Water**. They'll be the earliest and biggest in the neighborhood.
7. Spray **Florel** on Crabapple and Hawthorne trees to prevent unwanted fruit. To be effective, spray 1 time a week for 3 weeks.
8. **Bonide Tree and Shrub Insect Control** needs to be applied now to trees and shrubs (including roses) for best results. Imidacloprid (the active ingredient) is an annual soil drench used systemically to prevent unwanted insects, including borers. It is now available in a formulation that is safe to use on all fruit trees. To protect pollinators (aka bees), wait until 80% of blossoms have dropped on all flowering trees before applying this product.
9. **Prune** your junipers and arborvitae now so any "holes" will fill in during the summer. When pruning roses, be sure to seal cuts larger than a pencil eraser with a pruning sealer to prevent cane borers.
10. Use **Pond Shade** when the temperature in your pond reaches an average temperature of 50 degrees to prevent green water algae and blanket weed from forming.