

Top Ten List – May

1. **Fertilize, Fertilize, Fertilize!** Consider adding an injector system to your drip system – it's simple, easy and very cost effective. Most trees, shrubs, and flowers like a more acidic food here in Northern Nevada. If your plant material is on a drip system, apply **Jobe's Organic Fertilizer Spikes** at the area of the emitters, **Master Nursery Multi-Purpose Fertilizer 16-16-16** is also a good alternative. For a more organic approach to fertilizing, consider **Dr. Earth** or **Master Nursery** products.
2. Spraying Austrian pine trees with two different fungicides, such as **Daconil** and **Phyton 27**, will stop the spread of disease. Begin spraying when the needle tips are elongating and continue to spray once a week for 3 to 4 weeks.
3. Frost happens! Protect your plants with cloth draped over your plants all the way to the ground or the with a heat source.
4. Spurge can be controlled now by applying pre-emergent **Weedbeater Complete** to the lawn. This pre and post emergent product will kill existing actively growing weeds as well as kill the weed seeds without hurting the grass.
5. Keep after the codling moths to prevent those wormy apples. After apple and pear trees have experienced 80% blossom drop it is time to apply **Bonide Fruit Tree Spray** or **Captain Jacks Deadbug Brew** once a week for 3 weeks.
6. **Aphids** begin appearing on the snowball bushes, dogwood, spiraea, birch, plum, peach, cherry trees and really, everything from ash trees to roses. Effective treatment includes any one of the following, or in several combinations. Imidacloprid, a systemic soil drench, available in formulations for edibles and non-edibles, is a once a year application. It does take up to 4 weeks to be systemically absorbed up into the entire plant. A contact spray may need to be applied three times at 5-7 day intervals. **Ladybugs** or **Green Lacewings** are an organic way to control aphids if you don't wish to use chemicals.
7. Continue to shade your pond. Use **Microbe-lift** and **Barley Bales** to control algae. Fertilize pond plants with **Organic Fertilizer Spikes**.
8. Petunias, alyssum, and calendulas will take some frost. Marigolds, salvia, vinca, impatiens, tomatoes, and peppers turn black at 32 degrees. So be cautious!
9. Roses arrive before Mothers Day allowing you to give living roses now and all summer long.
10. Plant corn, potatoes, asparagus and summer bulbs early this month. Dust your cabbage with **Vegetable and Garden Dust**. Plant all your warm season vegetable seeds around the 15th to avoid frost.