

Top Ten List – May

1. **Fertilize, Fertilize, Fertilize!** 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 emitters, **Master Nursery Multi-Purpose Fertilizer 16-16-16** is also a good alternative. For a more organic approach to fertilizing, consider **Bumper Crop Fertilizers** or **Sustane** products.
2. Consider adding a **Hyrdofeed Fertilizer Injector** to your drip system- it's simple, easy, and very cost effective. Use **Liquid Gold Fertilizer** in conjunction with your injector for a result of envy worthy plants.
3. Spraying Austrian pine trees with fungicides, such as **Phyton27** or **Infuse**, will stop the spread of disease which starts at the top of the tree and works its way down. Begin spraying when the needle tips are elongating and continue to spray once a week for 3 to 4 weeks.
4. Frost happens! Protect your sensitive plants and flowers with **Harvest Guard** (available in multiple sizes) draped over your plants all the way to the ground or with a heat source. Petunias, alyssum, and calendulas will take some **frost**. Marigolds, salvia, vinca, impatiens, tomatoes, and peppers turn black at 32°F. **So be cautious!**
5. Spurge can be controlled now by applying pre-emergent **Weed Beater 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.
6. Keep after the codling moths to prevent those wormy apples. After apple and pear trees have experience 80% blossom drop, it is time to apply **Bonide Fruit Tree Spray, Take Down, or Bee Safe** once a week for 3 weeks.
7. **Aphids** begin appearing on the snowball bushes, dogwood, spirea, 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, that can be applied annually after the plant has finished flowering. 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.
8. Continue to shade your pond, using **Blue Pond Shade** for algae control. **Microbe-lift** and **Barley Bales** also control algae. For beautiful pond plants fertilize with **Jobe's Organic Container Fertilizer Spikes**.
9. **Roses** arrive for **Mother's 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 **Eight Garden Dust** to avoid cutworms, cabbage worms etc. Plant all your warm season vegetable seeds around the 15th to the 31st to avoid frost. Use **Season Starters** in order to plant your tomatoes, squash, peppers, and melon early in May without worrying about freeze damage.