SUMMER CHECKLIST

B efore you sit back in the shade, make sure you're on top of these chores. They'll leave your yard and gardens cool and comfy all summer long!

☐ Provide extra water as needed. The hot summer brings periodic drought to many parts of the country. The single greatest cause of plant loss is incorrect watering—either too little or too much. If you're unsure about when to water, stick your finger an inch or two into the soil. If it's dry, then give it a drink.



- ☐ Too much rain, coupled with warm temperatures, can create fungus problems. Be aware of these <u>before</u> they get out of hand. Daconil is the best all-around fungicide; use as directed.
- ☐ Replace spent annuals to ensure colorful blooms all summer long. Annuals are an easy, inexpensive way to perk up any yard.
- ☐ Keep your lawn mowed at the recommended height.



- ☐ Keep your vegetable and fruit gardens harvested.
- ☐ Control weeds with mulch, weed block fabrics, or by using chemical controls, if necessary.
- ☐ Rejuvenate annual and perennial flowers by deadheading—pinching or cutting off dead

blooms. Petunias, snapdragons, salvia, and marigolds appreciate this upkeep, as do roses.

- ☐ Keep an eye out for pests. Note insect or disease problems <u>before</u> they destroy any part of your landscape.
- ☐ Start a garden journal—note what you'd like to see more of next summer. Fall and winter are great months to begin planning next year's landscape.