

## SUMMER CHECK LIST

- ✓ **Water!** *Your plants and your lawn will start to really show signs of stress in these hot parts of the year. Try to water your plants once in the early morning or evening. Lawns can be watered deeply once a week instead of little bits every day.*
  
- ✓ **Dead Head** *All dead-heading means is take off the spent flowers and stems from flowering shrubs and plants. With annuals (like geraniums), no tools are necessary. Just snap off the finished flower heads. With trees or shrubs, pruners can be used for single stems and loppers can be used for short flower clusters (like spiraea and roses).*
  
- ✓ **Weed** *This time of year the weeds get pretty aggressive. Worse, though, they start to develop seed heads that grow the army of weeds! Try to rip out or kill the weeds thoroughly and catch them before the seeds mature. If they are seed heavy, do not throw them in your compost pile. Burn them or put them in the trash to reduce the proliferation of the weed.*
  
- ✓ **Evaluate** *This is the time of year to re-evaluate how you are using your space. Do you spend a lot of time entertaining in the back yard? Are the kids enjoying the makeshift fire pit—is it time to go permanent? Do you need screening to give you more privacy? Look at how you move organically throughout your property and evaluate whether path ways would be helpful to move traffic.*
  
- ✓ **Plan** *Summer is a great time to get ready for your fall landscaping plans. Fall is a perfect time to transplant, install new plants, start new lawns and refresh struggling ones. Starting to nail down what you want now will make the process more efficient when the time is ideal. You will be ready to roll.*



**Need help with your  
Summer Check List?**

Contact us today at [info@rivasdesign.net](mailto:info@rivasdesign.net)