

ALTUM'S GARDEN CHECKLISTS

march checklist

TO DO IN THE GARDEN

compliments of our Altum's landscape experts

exterminate crabgrass

Between now and May 1st, lay the groundwork for a healthy yard by applying **MaxLawn Step 1** or **corn gluten**, an organic solution, for crabgrass problems.

beat weeds to the punch

Apply a fresh layer of **Altum's Hardwood or Forest Fines Mulch** for early prevention of weeds and grass in tree and shrub beds.

color your world

Liven up your flowerbeds and containers with some hearty, colorful pansies and other cool-loving annuals. Give garden newcomers a dose of **Blooming & Rooting** or **Monty's Joy Juice**, an organic solution, for big blooms and healthy plants all season.

patch it up

Bare spots beware! Reseed and reestablish an evenly thick and healthy lawn with **Execu-Turf** grass seed, formulated especially for Indiana Lawns and **MaxLawn Starter Fertilizer** or **Chickity Doo Doo**, an organic solution, for best results.

dream big

Share your ideas or allow us to offer some of our own! Either way, the Altum's Landscape Team is your resource for big backyard sanctuaries, instant curb appeal, or small spruce ups. Give us a call at 733.GROW.

feed the masses

Give your trees, shrubs, perennials, and bulbs some much-needed attention with **All Purpose Fertilizer 10-10-10** or **Chickity Doo Doo**, an organic solution.

get a head start

Sow your vegetable seeds indoors to give your garden a jumpstart. And stage your own spring revival right on your windowsill with a variety of fresh herbs.

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april checklist

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time to sow

Thicken your lawn or fill in bare spots with **Execu-Turf Grass Seed**.
Fertilize newly seeded lawns with **MaxLawn Starter Fertilizer**.

exterminate crabgrass

Use **MaxLawn Step One** or **corn gluten**, an organic solution, to control crabgrass problems. It can be applied up until May 1st. One word of warning: do not seed or reseed at the same time.

fertilizer perennials

Fertilize everything (perennials, bulbs, trees & shrubs) with **All Purpose Fertilizer 10-10-10** now. Repeat perennial fertilization in six weeks.

control your weeds

Reduce weeds by applying a fresh layer of **Altum's Hardwood or Forest Fines Mulch**.
For a little extra help, apply **Weed/Grass stopper** or **corn gluten**, an organic solution, for early prevention of weeds and grass in tree and shrub beds.

strengthen your soil

Boost your soil and prepare beds by adding **Cow Wow**, an organic solution, for organic nutrition.

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may checklist

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() **banish weeds**

When your lawn is wet, kill dandelions and other broadleaf weeds by applying **Weed Free Zone granules**.

() **spray disease prone plants**

Crabapples, phlox, and roses are just some of the plants that may fall victim to disease. Spray now with a multi-purpose fungicide like **Fungonil** or **copper soap**, an organic solution, to prevent rust, mildew, and black spot.

() **acidify your soil**

To increase the amount of iron, zinc, and other important nutrients for growth in broadleaf evergreens, including azaleas, hollies, boxwood, and rhododendrons, add **Iron Plus**. To acidify and keep hydrangeas blue, we suggest **Aluminum Sulphate**.

() **fertilize**

Now is the time to fertilize! The soil has warmed and grass and plants are actively growing. Quality products—with the right level of nitrogen for our region, weather, and soil type—are as important as timing. We recommend the following high-quality fertilizers for your plants:

All Purpose 10-10-10 or **Chickity Doo Doo** Great for trees, shrubs, and most perennials (ask for details).

Fertilome Blooming & Rooting Best for blooming annuals, tropicals, and tomatoes, too.

Fertilome Start 'n Grow, Chickity Doo Doo or Bradfield, organics riveting roses Slow-release fertilize, then forget about it! A must for container gardens.

Rose Food with systemic insecticide, Chickity Doo Doo or Bradfield Organics Riveting Roses Nourishes and provides a built-in systemic insecticide to keep the bugs away.

Fertilome Gardener's Special Balanced for houseplants and foliage.

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june checklist

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() keep planting

It's still an excellent time to plant, so liven up your landscape with some summer-blooming shrubs, such as spirea, hydrangea, and shrub roses. For an added boost, try **Fertilome Root Stimulator**.

() keep blooming

The key to extending the bloom cycle is to pinch off dying/dead flowers to make room for new ones. You can also help things along with **Fertilome Blooming and Rooting 9-59-8**.

() control evergreen pests

Keep your faithful evergreen friends healthy with **Eight**, created especially for the control of scale, mites, and aphids. Important note: spray early in the morning when temperatures are below 70 degrees and on a calm day to prevent damage or drift.

() time to prune

Give lilacs and other early spring flowering shrubs a prune in early June. You can also deadhead rhododendrons, azaleas, roses, and spring perennials.

() take care of tomatoes

Now is the time to protect your tomatoes from insects. We suggest **Eight** or **Veggie Pharm** from **Nature Made Better**, an organic insecticide that controls over 100 different types of insects and will not harm children, pets, or birds. As your tomatoes grow, give them the support they need by using stakes or tomato cages. It's also a good time to weed and mulch your tomatoes—and all of your vegetables—with hardwood mulch or straw.

() feed the roses

Now's the time to fertilize your roses with a systemic insecticide, such as **Fertilome Rose Food** or **Bradfield Organics Riveting Roses**. Prevent black spot, a somewhat common rose ailment, with **Fertilome Systemic Fungicide** or **Cow Wow**, an organic solution.

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() **shower with love...and water**

In the heat of summer, it's a good idea to check your containers, hanging baskets, and window boxes daily to be sure they have enough water. Trees, shrubs, and grass generally need at least one inch of water per week. If you're not sure how much water your plants are getting, please ask us for a **FREE** Altum's rain gauge. When watering, we recommend thorough early morning drinks to give plants the moisture they need to get through a hot day and to prevent fungal diseases.

() **get to the root**

For added root growth and increased likelihood your plants will take up more water (especially in drought-prone July), we recommend **Fertilome Root Stimulator**.

() **control pests**

Spider mites, aphids, beetles and other leaf-munching insects have made their debut. So, check plants regularly and try **Eight** to curb any problems. A monthly dose of **Systemic Insecticide granules** also provides extended insect control and **All Season's Oil** is a terrific remedy for scale.

() **have your own bag of tricks**

Bagworms can really do a number on evergreens this time of year. But with a little prevention (regularly pick off the cone-like bags hanging from trees and shrubs) and help (spray **Fertilome Borer, Bagworm & Caterpillar Spray** or **Spinosad** to take care of worms already out of their bags) your evergreens will continue to thrive.

() **keep blooming**

The key to extending the bloom cycle is to pinch off dying/dead flowers to make room for new ones. You can also help things along with **Fertilome Blooming and Rooting 9-59-8** or **Monty's Joy Juice**, an organic solution.

() **keep mulching**

July might not seem like prime mulching month, but an added layer of **Altum's Hardwood or Forest Fines Mulch** will hold in moisture, prevent weeds and disease, and add valuable organic matter to the soil.

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august checklist

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() **reap what you sow**

Enjoy the fruits (and vegetables) of your labor early for the best flavor. Now's also the time to cut back annual herbs to encourage new growth. Be sure to wash your fruits, vegetables, and herbs thoroughly before use.

() **keep blooming**

You can extend your blooming well into August by continuing to pinch off dying/dead flowers to make room for new ones. You can also help things along with weekly applications of **Fertilome Blooming and Rooting 9-59-8**.

() **root for healthy plants**

Keep up the waterworks with at least one inch of water per week for trees, shrubs and grass. Annuals, perennials and containers may need a bit more. Try **Fertilome Root Stimulator** to encourage root growth and help plants take up more water and nutrients.

() **mum's the word**

Enjoy the color and give your mums a head start on establishing root systems that will bring them back year after year. For best results use **Root Stimulator, Superphosphate, and surround with a fresh layer of Altum's Hardwood or Forest Fines mulch**.

() **control pests**

Continue to check plants regularly for spider mites, aphids, beetles and other leaf-munching insects and try **Eight** to curb any problems. A monthly dose of **Systemic Insecticide granules** also provides extended insect control and **All Season's Oil** is a terrific remedy for scale.

() **have your own bag of tricks**

Battle bagworms by picking off the cone-like bags hanging from trees and shrubs and spray with **Fertilome Borer, Bagworm & Caterpillar Spray** or **Spinosad, organic**, to take care of worms already out of their bags.

() **get ahead of the grubs**

As temperatures begin to cool later this month and into September, apply **Kill-A-Grub** for best damage control against sod webworms, grubs, and moles (who will gladly tunnel their way through your lawn and flower beds to feast on legions of grubs).

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fall checklist

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() **add color**

Liven up your landscape with some colorful mums, pansies, and ornamental grasses. For an added boost for garden newcomers, we recommend **Fertilome Root Stimulator**.

() **think spring? think bulbs**

It's tough to think about spring when fall's crisp air and rejuvenated schedule is swinging into full gear. But by adding bulbs to your garden now—with Dutch Bulb Food for good root and bloom development—you can ensure a lovely spring surprise. Buy your bulbs now for the best selection and store in a cool, dry place until October planting, when ground temperatures have cooled. Be sure to plant bulbs in large masses of the same color and variety for the optimal effect.

() **make your beds**

Mix **Altum's Soil Amendment** with the soil in your planting beds, add **All Purpose Fertilizer 10-10-10** or **Chickity Doo Doo**, then plant to your heart's content. Protect your beds and new plantings with a fresh layer of **Altum's Hardwood** or **Forest Fines Mulch**. For an added boost, add **Cow Wow**.

() **patch it up**

Now is one of the best times to reseed and reestablish an evenly thick and healthy lawn. We recommend **Execu-Turf** grass seed, formulated especially for Indiana Lawns, and **Maxlawn Fertilizer** to fertilize.