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Pond/Water Feature Tip

It is a great time of year to install aquatic plants in your pond or water feature. Plants should provide about 40% coverage to help shade and filter the water.

Some plants that will do well in ponds and water features are water hyacinth, duckweed, water lettuce and water hawthorn.

Plants will still benefit the ecology of the water when placed in pots and submerged in the water. Ideal choices for this approach are canna lilies, iris versicolor, iris pseudacorus and carex pendula.

Lifestyle Landscapes Still Offering Electronic Newsletter

If you are interested in receiving this newsletter electronically, please feel free to call Lifestyle or simply email us at consult@lifestyle-landscapes.com with your request.

What are you Doing this Summer?

Living in the Northwest provides us all with many opportunities to get out and discover a wide variety of natural wonders. Mountains to the east, Puget Sound to the west. Why not venture a bit further out and take a ferry ride to Vashon, the San Juans or explore the Olympic Peninsula? Here are a few ideas for outdoor activities this summer:

*** Hike, Bike, or Ride the Snohomish Centennial Trail:** 17 miles of old railroad line running between Lake Stevens and Arlington. 7 miles paved, difficulty level: "very easy". Hiking, mountain biking and horseback riding is permitted. Leashed dogs are OK. No permits are required and parking is free.



Directions: From Seattle, drive north on I-5 to Highway 2 (Exit 194). Drive east to the town of Snohomish. The trailhead is at the intersection of Maple Street and Pine Avenue.

Contact information: **Snohomish County Parks and Recreation**, 9623 32nd Street Southeast, Everett, WA 98205, 425-388-6600.

*** Alki Kayak Tours: Guided sea kayak tours:** Three times daily, 10am, 2:20pm and sunset through October 31st. Also offers inline skate, bike, fishing boat, kayak, and longboard rentals. Daily tours range from \$35 to \$49 per person.

@ Seacrest Boathouse.
1660 Harbor Ave. S.W.
Seattle, WA 98146
206-953-0237



*** River Rafting with Olympic Rafting Adventures:** Guided rafting on the Elwha (Class II+ whitewater) or the Hoh River (Class II whitewater) through the Olympic National Park. Adults \$54, Children 5-11yrs \$44.

888-452-1443 - Toll Free
360-452-1443 - Local
123 Lake Aldwell Road,
Port Angeles, WA 98363
info@raftandkayak.com



*** Hiking in Moran State Park, Orcas Island:** Over 30 miles of hiking trails ranging from easy loops to rugged out-of-the-way trails. Hike to the summit of Mt. Constitution, Cascade Falls or one of the many lakes within the 5252-acre park. Also a popular place for fishing, swimming and non-motorized boating.
360-376-2326

Garden Calendar

July

Prune wisteria for the last time; also hedges, heathers and fuchsias.

Sow seeds of zinnias, cosmos, nicotiana and sunflowers for late-summer and fall blooms.

Harvest potatoes and onions after tops yellow and die.

Weeds are apt to germinate faster as the weather grows warmer. Pull and eliminate them now before they mature.

Water deeply and thoroughly. Save water by directing sprinklers onto the lawn and beds and not the driveway or sidewalk.

August

Order bulbs, roses, perennials, ornamental grasses, shrubs, trees, berry bushes and fruit trees now for fall planting.

Plant or seed fall and winter vegetables such as green onions, carrots, lettuce, spinach, radishes and cauliflower.

Prune only for shape and cut spent canes of berry bushes after fruiting.

Water lawns thoroughly as grass dries quickly in hot weather. Water during cooler parts of the day to prevent evaporation.

September

Seed or sod lawns, September is also a good time to overseed lawns with bare spots.

Sow wildflower meadows by scattering seeds on well prepared ground, rake lightly and cover with a thin layer of peat moss.

Collect and dispose of rotted fruit to prevent the spread of disease.

Apply a 3-inch layer of organic mulch over the roots of permanent plants to reduce soil erosion and freeze damage during winter.

Divide summer flowering perennials and grasses.

What We've Been Up To...



Far Left: Water feature in Sammamish.

Middle: IPE deck, bench and trellis in Kirkland.

Above: Paver walkway in Seattle

Vacation Pictures

At Lifestyle Landscapes, our passion is landscape, even while on vacation. Recently, our Executive Landscape Consultant, Brian Horstmann, was fortunate enough to vacation in Europe and visit some of the world's most elaborate and beautiful gardens.



Generalife Gardens, Spain:

Located on the grounds of the Alhambra in Granada, Southern Spain, Generalife exhibits much Islamic influence. Originally a summer residence for Moorish Kings, the gardens are very elaborate, created as extensions of the palaces' architecture.



Versailles, France:

French garden design focuses heavily on organization. These gardens are much more than an extension of the architecture. They control the eyes with stunning symmetry, precise pruning and edging, and avenues that seem to go on forever into the distance.



Lifestyle Welcomes a New Designer!



The Lifestyle team gained a new designer this June! Kristy Barnes holds a Bachelors Degree in Landscape Architecture from Washington State University. She has lived in the Seattle area for about two years now. When she's not designing, Kristy enjoys playing tennis with her husband, spending time outdoors and working in her own garden.

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Small Steps to Conserve Natural Resources:

*Use mulch such as SteerCo or bark in flower beds to reduce the need for irrigation

*Drive a fuel-efficient vehicle, carpool, walk, cycle or take advantage of public transport.

*When choosing flowers and shrubs for your landscapes, select natives that will feed and shelter insects and birds.

*Compost kitchen and yard waste; 1/3 of landfills today are filled with organic matter from our kitchens and yards.

*Avoid purchasing disposable items with lots of packaging. Always reuse if possible and recycle everything you can.

*Carry a reusable canvas bag to the supermarket versus using their paper or plastic.





Your Guide To Puget Sound Happenings... Keeping the Kids Busy

School is finally out, now what? You've got your family vacations planned, backyard barbeques, etc. But what about all that time in between? What are some fun things the kids can do to keep occupied until autumn rolls around?



***The YMCA of Greater Seattle** offers many great programs for kids and teens including, but not limited to, day camps, sports programs, and summer enrichment. <http://www.seattlemca.org/page.cfm>

***Seattle Children's Theatre Drama School** holds a variety of classes throughout the summer and in late August provide full-day camps. They have classes in musical theatre, physical comedy, Shakespeare and much more. Check out the website to view the summer catalogue. <http://www.sct.org/classes/sctdramaschool/>

***The King County Library System** has many summer reading programs at all branches. Visit the website to view booklists and schedules. <http://www.kcls.org/programs/programs.cfm>

