



# Christensen's

PLANT & HARDSCAPE CENTERS

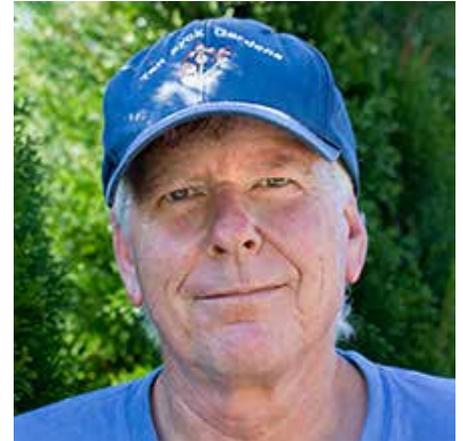
## Fall is the best time to fertilize

I'm a big fan of doing any major fertilization in the fall, and here's why. If done at the proper time, mid-to-late October, the nutrients go into strengthening the root system for the following year without stimulating foliar growth. Plants are smart, and they know that diminishing temperatures and daylight means it's getting close to winter. As long as the soil temps remain between 50 and 60 degrees, the root systems are operating at full speed.



It may be 35 degrees in mid-November, but as long as it's 50+ degrees a few inches down, root growth and nutrient uptake are good.

Here are the reasons a major spring fertilization can be problematic. Lots of early foliar growth makes plants more susceptible to disease, insects, and drought. A light fertilizing will almost always be beneficial most times, just don't apply in a drought or a heat wave, it will stress the plants.



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