



CHRISTENSEN'S PLANT CENTER

Wholesale Supplier To Landscape Professionals

Tips and Tricks To Get You In and Out...

Welcome to Mid-May, arguably the busiest two weeks of the green season! I would normally write something educational, but let's try something a little different: Let's save you time!

With everyone in the industry running around frantically to complete as many jobs before the Memorial Day weekend, chances are that you want to spend as little time as possible in a supply yard. As much as we love having you visit, you have things to do! With that being said, here's some tips to speed up the process for veteran and rookie contractors.



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[***Return to Archive***](#)

Don't fear your salespeople! Whether you just need some fertilizer off the shelf, maybe a couple yards of mulch, or even just a few shrubs and/or perennials, let one of us know! We don't want to see you having to hang around 5, 10, or sometimes 15+ minutes when all that you really came in for was a bag of Holly Tone!

Jim is everyone's best friend at the counter! If you haven't met Jim yet, you should! We sales knuckleheads call him our quarterback, and we are his receivers. If you just need a few plants, or maybe some edging, or anything along those lines, let him know if you're already at the counter. He can get ahold of someone out in the yard and, more times than not, there is a good chance that we can grab your material on a pass by and drop it by your vehicle.

Got hardwood mulch? Mulch can get loaded up pretty quickly, and just about everyone here is certified to operate the bigger front end loaders that we use for mulches. Even if every "wave" of salesperson are out assisting other customers, there's a good possibility that someone is either already loading mulch, someone is "about" to load, or we may be able to pull another employee from a different division to load you.

You know what you want, AND you know where it is! Let's say that you need 10 Stella daylilies, a couple weigela, and another plant here and there. You know where everything is, and we're all backed up assisting other contractors. Please, feel free to grab the material, bring it up to front of the shop, and notify Jim (remember, he's your best friend!). He, or another salesperson, can ring you up considerably faster!

continued...



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Tips and Tricks To Get You In and Out, continued:

I would also like to bring up the topic of pre-pulling orders. To say that "we don't do it" is probably a bad choice of words. We don't promote it, because we can't guarantee that it will be completed by the time that you're ready for it. That being said, you can always ask! Please keep some factors in mind though:



April-July 4th, the chances are improbable, yet not completely impossible. Reasons being that this is EVERYONE'S busiest time of the year in the Green Industry. On our end, we have multiple loads of material coming in and being shipped out, not including the daily contractor pickups. The nursery is only so big, and you veterans have seen just how busy this parking lot can get. We also have only so many employees available in small spurts of time that can get the material ready.

After July 4th, you have a better chance. If we know in advance (meaning a day, not an hour) about material to be picked up, it is possible to get it done. In the case of picking up trees, I am a BIG fan of being notified ahead of time, as we can complete a lot of the preparation involved to get these ready for transport. Again, we can't guarantee that it will get done (poor field conditions, dry weather, and Inventory Days for example), but we can at least try and/or give you an honest assessment.

We're halfway through the hard part of the year, folks. Always remember that we're running a marathon, not a sprint. But...if you need a little boost of energy to help you along the way (you know what I'm about to say)...stop in for a cup of coffee and say Hi!

Be safe out there!



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