

JOBS FOR MAY

As the cooler weather is now with us, your trees subsequently require less watering, especially your deciduous trees.

If you continue to re-water already wet trees they will become waterlogged and may develop root-rot and more serious fungal problems. You can definitely do more harm than good by over watering at this time of year.

Remember the best method is to scrape away some of the decorative gravel with your finger, if its dry underneath, water, if it is not then don't.

The native trees in your collection are probably still growing quite well, so they may require more regular watering.

As the frosts aren't too far away, it's probably time to protect your figs by moving them to a more sheltered spot.

Black Pines and Junipers definitely don't like wet feet over the cooler months so move them to the sunniest spot in the garden.

All fruit, berries and remaining leaves on deciduous trees should be removed from late May to June to avoid weakening the tree through Winter.

Fertilizing can cease now until early Spring as trees are dormant through winter.

I hope everyone fertilized Elms with a low nitrogen fertilizer prior to leaf drop as it certainly reduces risk of losing branches through die-back (if you didn't and the leaves are still on, its possibly not too late).

It's not a bad idea to spray all your deciduous trees with a 3% lime sulphur to 97% water mix once they have dropped all their leaves, to protect from mildew and fungal problems.

This can be repeated again Mid Winter.