

# Mapledale Cuttings

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## Different Types of Soils

**Soil** is the un-whole organic or mineral material on the immediate surface of the earth that serves as a natural medium for the growth of land plants.

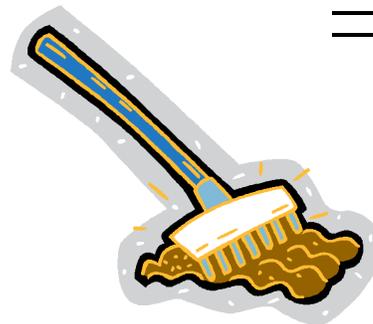
**Soil organic matter** is the part of the soil that is exclusive of un-decayed plant and animal residues.

**Humus** is the total organic compounds in soil exclusive of un-decayed plant and animal residues, their partial decomposition products and the soil biomass.

**Organic soil** is the soil which the sum of the thicknesses of layers containing organic soil materials is greater than the sum of the thicknesses of mineral layers.

### Facts About Soil:

- Soil is living.
- There are more than 70,000 types of soil in the U.S.
- One tablespoon of soil has more organisms in it than people on Earth.
- It takes more than 500 years to form 1 inch of topsoil.
- Nearly all antibiotics used to fight our infections are obtained from soil organisms.
- In 1 gram of soil, there are over 5,000 different types of bacteria.



From Soil Science Society of America  
www.soils.org

## LOCAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Mapledale Farm still has maple syrup for sale!*
- *Visit 'Vintage Ohio' at Lake Farmpark on Aug. 3-4 from 1-10pm. They will have 25 wineries, crafters and artisans.*
- *Visit the Geauga Park District's 16th Annual 'Nature Arts Festival' on Aug. 4-5.*
- *Visit Holden Arboretum's Garden Railroad: June 17—Sept. 23*

## Caring for Annuals

Now that they are planted, how do I take care of them?

Here are some tips:

**Fertilizer:** Generally annuals are fairly undemanding when it comes to fertilizers. However, a few well-timed applications will result in healthier, more robust plants and in most cases more

flowers. Fertilizers with a ratio of 1-1-1, 1-2-1 and 1-2-2 are best for annuals.

**Watering:** Annuals need a constant supply of water to provide abundant flowers. Deep soaking is far better than frequent, light applications of water. This results in a shallow root system and

encourages diseases and weed growth. When watering, water well and let soil dry slightly between waterings.

**Dead Heading:** Dead heading the mature flowers and seed pods will produce more flowers.

From All About Annuals: Ortho Books

## Try Some 'Knockout' Roses

These roses are for those of us who love them in the garden but who do not have the patience or the time to take care of Hybrid Tea Roses.

The 'Knockout' Series start blooming in early June and continue until frost.

'Knockout' Ht. 3-4' Sp. 3-4' Total blackspot resistance has been achieved. Dark mossy green foliage and cherry red blossoms.

'Blushing Knockout' Ht. 3-4' Sp. 3-4' As the blooms age, the light pink color turns to shell pink. Has mossy green leaves with blue hues.

'Pink Knockout' Ht. 3-4' Sp. 3-4' Has pink blooms against mossy green foliage with blue hues.

All these 'Knockout' Roses are tough and hardy with outstanding disease resistance. Prune any dead wood in spring. These roses also will withstand some shade. They are also winter hardy.



## Lawn Care Instructions

### Water Use by Lawns:

Lawn grasses use about 0.1 to 0.3 inches of water per day during the summer. This water is lost through pores in the leaf surface by evaporation through a process called transpiration. Transpiration is usually greatest during periods of high temperature, low relative humidity and gentle summer breezes. A general estimate of the water requirement by a lawn during the summer is 1" per week. Supplemental watering will usually be required at 7-10 day intervals when rainfall is insufficient to replace water loss.

### How to Water:

Sufficient water should be applied at each watering to wet the soil to a 6-8 inch depth. The amount of water required to wet the soil to this depth will vary with the kind and type of soil. To keep grass from wilting on sand soils, irrigation will be needed more frequently than on clay soils due to the lower water-holding capacity per equivalent soil depth. Most homeowners are not aware of the kind of soil in their lawn. On the day after watering, one can check the depth of water penetration by soil probing. Simply check the soil core or section to determine the

depth of water penetration. The length of time the sprinkler ran to wet the soil this deep should be recorded as a guide for future watering.



### Cutting Height:

The use of turf must be a primary consideration in determining the height to mow turf grass. Grass cut to 2 1/2-3" is acceptable on a home lawn but would be completely unsatisfactory on a golf course fairway. Species adapted to the mowing height required for a specific use must be chosen if a good turf is to be maintained.

### Clipping Removal:

It is advisable to return grass clippings to the lawn because they are a valuable source of nutrients. Research has shown that when clippings are removed, 1/3 more nitrogen fertilizer was necessary to maintain the same color and density as areas where clippings were returned. Furthermore, and contrary to popular belief, grass clippings do not contribute to thatch accumulation if proper mowing practices are followed.

### Fertilizer and Weed Control:

- Spring Pre-emergent
- Early Summer (50% slow release 32-5-7)
- Late Summer (50% slow release 32-5-7)
- Fall (19-19-19)
- Lime application as needed
- Weed control as needed

## Benefits of Pruning

Pruning can be beneficial for 3 reasons; directing growth, improving health, and increasing production.

### Pruning Directs Growth:

Pruning can be a benefit for esthetic reasons but it can also help for practical reasons if you want to bring a lopsided tree into balance to prevent it from breaking from uneven weight. You can also prune to grow a tree slim and taller, keep a tree small, or open it up by thinning it out. Pruning to direct growth can also control the microclimate of the garden. The pruning you do will affect the degree of sunlight and shade entering a yard, change the air temperature, change the movement of air and can even change the condition of the soil. Pruning will also rejuvenate an old, sparse shrub or tree.

### Pruning Improves Health:

Pruning will improve the health of your shrub or tree by allowing more air to circulate and more sun to penetrate the innermost leaves. This is the best possible way to prevent disease without having to spray. Pruning will also keep a shrub or tree healthy by repairing any damage. When you remove a dead and/or possibly diseased branch it will keep the infection from spreading to other, healthy branches. Also, if you are transplanting your shrub or tree, pruning will reduce the number of leaves on the transplanted plant, which will compensate for root loss and will reestablish the necessary leaf/root ratio.



### Pruning Increases Production:

When you prune correctly, the blooms on your plant will improve. The more branches your tree has, the greater number of blooms will be seen. If you reduce the number of branches then the blooms that remain will be larger.

Please remember that plants will vary in their need for pruning. Some plants need a lot of pruning, others need only little over their lifetime and some never need any pruning unless they are injured.

From All About Pruning: Ortho Books

## Weed Control in Your Landscape Beds

Did you know that weeds are simply plants that are growing in the wrong area? Did you also know that weed seeds are in the soil by the millions? This is why it makes weeding one job that most people dread to do because it feels like an overwhelming task. For the best results though, start maintaining beds at the beginning of the season before they go to seed in the spring and summer. If you do this, you will have far fewer



seeds in the soil to deal with. Pulling weeds is only a temporary fix and it does not remove the root system of the plant and therefore the weeds will grow back. Try using a pre-emergent (an herbicide that is effective against germinating seeds before the plant emerges though the soil surface) to prevent weeds from

germinating. Some weeds will still be there though and you will need to treat them with a chemical like Roundup. A systemic herbicide will kill the weeds from the inside and will not leach into the soil.

Once you can get your weeds under control you will have more time to enjoy your lawn instead of just taking care of it every weekend!

From All About Lawns: Ortho Books

## Employee Profile

### Jim Popovich:

Jim joins Mapledale's Bulk Division team with 28 years of experience in the construction and trucking field. Of those years, more than 20 of them Jim was self-employed. Jim and his wife, Connie, have lived in Chardon for the past 14 years. Connie loves all kinds of animals, especially horses and Jim loves classic/collectable cars. Jim and Connie both enjoy taking those unplanned Sunday drives, as well as, relaxing in their own backyard.



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*"Our word is our  
word!"*

We're on the Web!  
[Mapledalelandscaping.com](http://Mapledalelandscaping.com)

## Mapledale is Your Paver & Wall Stone Headquarters

Mapledale Farm Inc. is a dealer and installer of Versa-lok Wall Stone and Belgard Pavers. These companies offer a large selection of hardscapes to meet the expectations of every budget and every style. Let Mapledale turn your house into the home of your dreams!

Versa-lok and Belgard are two of the biggest names in the hardscape industry. Mapledale only offers the best products to their customers. Come to our facility for samples of these products and prices. You can bring your design or we can design a patio or walkway to match your style and needs.

Please don't forget our bulk supplies:

- Mulches
- Topsoil
- Compost
- Stone
- Sand
- Gravel
- Straw
- Seed
- Fertilizer
- PVC Materials

