

August Gardening Calendar

LAWN CARD

- Treat lawns for grubs with the recommended insecticides.
- Prepare lawns for seeding of tall fescue or bluegrass later this month.
- 1/3rd of growth should be removed when mowing warm season grasses.
- Try to change direction when mowing your lawn. This will help strengthen the root system and expose different sides of the plant to sunlight.

FERTILIZING

- Fertilize strawberries with nitrogen this month.
- Do NOT fertilize shrubs this month.
- Now is a good time to take soil samples from your lawn especially if you plan to put out winter grasses. Soil boxes can be picked-up at the County Extension office.

PLANTING

- Vegetables to be planted in August: beets, Chinese cabbage, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, radish, rutabaga, spinach, and turnips.
- Transplant broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower plants in mid-August.
- Continue repotting overgrown houseplants.
- Plant pansy seeds in flats this month so they can be transplanted to the landscape in September.
- Perennial seeds to sow this month: hollyhock, delphinium, and stokesia.
- Spider lily, colchicum, and sternbergia bulbs should be planted this month.

PRUNING

- Late summer is NOT a good time to prune trees and shrubs because pruning will stimulate new growth. That new growth will not have enough time to harden before it turns cold. Late January and February are the best times to do major pruning.
- The exception to the above rule is that dead or diseased wood can be pruned out anytime of the year.
- Excessive growth on wisteria vines should be stopped to encourage blooms. Cutting back runners and root pruning can do this. Use a sharp spade and insert the blade to its full depth in a semi-circle about 6 feet from the main stem.

SPRAYING *Pesticides should be used sparingly! Use only when needed and always follow the label.*

- Watch shrubs for the following insects: spider mites, and lace bugs.
- Use recommended herbicide to control poison ivy, honeysuckle, greenbriar, kudzu, trumpet creeper, and wisteria if desired.
- Continue with fungicide program for roses and fruit trees
- Peach and nectarine trees need a trunk spray for peach tree borers at the end of August.
- Spray the following vegetables if insects are observed: broccoli, cabbage, and cauliflower worms; and squash borers.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Prepare a planting plan if you intend on doing some fall landscaping.
- Now is a good time to construct a compost bin, if desired

*Plan a stroll through the
Nash County Arboretum
located at*

1006 Eastern Avenue in Nashville.

*The beautiful arboretum gardens
are maintained by the*

Nash County Master Gardener Volunteers.



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