

October Garden Calendar



Plants in Flower

- ❖ Sasanqua Camellia, Japonica Camellia, Chrysanthemum, and Franklinia.

Plants with Colorful Berries

- ❖ American Beauty Berry, Burfordholly, Chinese Holly, Foster Holly, Nellie Stevens Holly, Nandina, and Pyracantha.

Fertilizing

- ❖ Fertilize spring flowering bulbs at planting time with a balanced fertilizer.

Planting

- ❖ Plant spring flowering bulbs like Daffodil, Tulip, Crocus, and Hyacinth this month.
- ❖ October is still a good time to set out new landscape plants.
- ❖ Plant or transplant Peonies this month.
- ❖ Continue planting Pansy plants now.
- ❖ If you do not have a fall vegetable garden, plant cover crops like Annual Rye, Barley, and Wheat.
- ❖ You can start salad vegetables in a cold frame and enjoy them all winter. Plant Lettuce, Green Onions, Carrots, Radishes, Broccoli, Cauliflower and most leafy greens inside the cold frame.

Pruning

- ❖ None
- ❖ Rootprune any trees or plants you plan to move next spring.

Spraying

- ❖ Control the following woody weeds by spraying the recommended herbicide: Trumpet Creeper, and Blackberry.
- ❖ Store your garden pesticides in a secured, dry location.
- ❖ Clean spray tanks.

Lawn Care

- ❖ Warm season lawns like Bermudagrass, Centipedegrass, and Zoysia can be over seeded with annual Ryegrass.
- ❖ Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

Propagation

- ❖ None....Just remember to check the cuttings you put in a cold frame for winter. This should be done twice a month. Water as needed.

Specific Chores

- ❖ Take soil sample from your plant beds and vegetable garden for testing.
- ❖ Start filling your compost bin as leaves begin to fall.
- ❖ If you have not or do not plan to plant a cover crop, you can till organic material like tree leaves into your vegetable garden soil.
- ❖ Prepare bird feeders.
- ❖ Dig and store summer bulbs like Gladioli, Dahlia, and Caladium.
- ❖ Cure Sweet Potatoes this month.
- ❖ Spring flowering bulbs can be forced to flower in the dead of winter. Just pot the bulbs early this month and place inside your refrigerator. In twelve weeks take them out into the warmth of your home.
- ❖ Continue to prepare your lawn and garden equipment for winter storage.
- ❖ Store leftover fertilizers in a dry location for use next spring.

November Garden Calendar



Plants in Flower

- ❖ Japonica Camellia

Plants with Colorful Berries

- ❖ American Beautyberry, Burford Holly, Chinese Holly, Foster Holly, Nellie R. Stevens Holly, Nandine, and Pyracantha.

Fertilizing

- ❖ None needed on plants outside.
- ❖ Use wood ashes as a replacement for limestone. (Rule of thumb: 3 lbs of wood ashes = 1 lb of ground limestone).
- ❖ Fertilize house plants as needed.

Planting

- ❖ Deciduous or leaf losing trees and shrubs can be transplanted after the leaves fall in the autumn.
- ❖ Plant trees and shrubs this month.

Pruning

- ❖ Time to trim existing Asparagus foliage. Cut to the ground after the foliage is killed by frost.
- ❖ No pruning should be done on shrubs or trees at this time.
- ❖ Cut back and clean up frost-killed perennials.

Spraying

- ❖ None

Lawn Care

- ❖ Mow your cool season or tall fescue lawn as needed.
- ❖ Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

Propagation

- ❖ Water your cuttings in the cold frame as needed.
- ❖ You may want to try your hand at air layering on some of your house plants like Dieffenbachia or Dumb Cane.

Specific Chores

- ❖ Soil test results should be back if samples were sent in September or October. Apply the recommended lime to the areas in need of liming. Wait and fertilize in the spring.
- ❖ Check with the local Extension Center for the recommended fruit varieties for the area.
- ❖ Order fruit trees and grapevines this month for a February or March delivery and planting.
- ❖ Remember to water your evergreen trees and shrubs thoroughly before winter set in, particularly if weather conditions have been dry.
- ❖ Look to see if screens or windbreaks are needed around your home.
- ❖ Continue filling the compost bin with the fallen leaves.
- ❖ Look for yuletide plants as gifts. Remember, some plants like Poinsettias should be placed in the sunniest room in the house.
- ❖ Consider giving your family gardener a holiday gift to use in the garden.

December Garden Calendar



Plants in Flower

- ❖ Japonica Camellia

Plants with Colorful Berries

- ❖ American Beautyberry, Burford Holly, Chinese Holly, Foster Holly, Nellie R. Stevens Holly, Nandina and Pyracantha

Fertilizing

- ❖ None needed on plants outside.
- ❖ Use wood ashes as a replacement for limestone. (Rule of thumb: 3 lbs of wood ashes = 1 lb of ground limestone.)
- ❖ Fertilize house plants once this month.

Planting

- ❖ Plant trees and shrubs this month as long as the ground is not frozen.

Pruning

- ❖ Prune berry producing plants if berries are desired in table arrangements over the holidays.
- ❖ Remove "weed" or undesirable trees from your landscape.

Spraying

- ❖ None

Lawn Care

- ❖ Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

Propagation

- ❖ Take leaf cuttings of your favorite house plants like African Violets and Begonia.
- ❖ Hardwood cuttings of your landscape plants like Forsythia (Yellow Bells), Flowering Quince, Weigela, Crape Myrtle, and Hydrangea can be taken this month.

Specific Chores

- ❖ Put Pine needles or Wheat/Barley straw over your Strawberry plants.
- ❖ Keep your living Christmas tree outside until you are ready to decorate. White Pine is the recommended living tree for all of North Carolina. In the mountain region, Fraser Fir is also recommended.
- ❖ Order your seed catalogs.
- ❖ Make a list of needed repairs on garden tools and equipment. Repair or have them repaired after the holidays.
- ❖ Shop around for garden products for your favorite gardener.
- ❖ If frigid weather occurs, be cautious when covering shrubs. Cover only with burlap or white plastic.
- ❖ Keep your cut Christmas tree in water throughout the holiday season.
- ❖ Order fruit trees and grape vines for February or March planting, if not already done.
- ❖ Visit the Extension Center for information on the holiday house plants like Poinsettia and Amaryllis.