

NOVEMBER in the Garden



Rain is usually adequate in November, but be sure to check the soil often to keep it moist—not sloppy wet, but moist. Many people consider fall flowers and veggies better than the spring versions of the same plants. The nights are cooler and the plants get to rest at night as opposed to the spring and summer when the nights are almost as hot as the day. In this situation, the plants don't get to rest at night. Don't forget to keep the weeds pulled; don't want them to get the jump on you.



BIRDS AND WILDLIFE:

- This is a great month for hummingbirds.
- Goldfinches are back. Clean and fill thistle feeders for their benefit.

COLOR:

- It's winter-annual time. Select from pansies, spring bulbs, flowering kale, dianthus, calendula, viola, Johnny jump-ups, alyssum, and snapdragons.
- Be ready to move the bougainvilleas, hibiscus, plumeria, purple fountain grass, citrus, and mandevilla into the greenhouse or garage.
- Fall asters are spectacular. Plant them now for a good show next fall.
- Plant your wildflower seeds this month.
- For some winter color, get an amaryllis bulb or two and force them to bloom.



SHADE TREES AND SHRUBS:

- Do not fertilize or prune trees and shrubs this month.
- If you're going to plant a pecan tree, consider Pawnee.
- It's a good time to plant container-grown shrubs for long-lasting color.
- If you plan to plant bare-root trees or shrubs, prune the tops back at least one-third to one-half before planting.
- Deciduous trees drop their leaves in the fall. Many of these trees have beautifully-colored leaves before they fall.
- After the leaves fall, it's much easier to see the pruning needs of your trees.



FRUITS AND NUTS:

- Pick up pecans as soon as possible after they fall to the ground.
- Spray Kocide on peach and plum trees to prevent bacterial diseases next spring.
- When transplanting perennials, get as much of the root ball as you can.



VEGETABLES:

- Plant onion seeds and spinach in November.
- Side-dress your cole crops and onions.
- Plant radishes, carrots, beets, and greens this month.
- Keep the soil moist in the vegetable garden—not sloppy wet, just moist.



TURF GRASS:

- If you didn't get your lawn fertilizer down in October, do it now. Be sure it says "Winterizer" or something like that on the bag.
- Water the lawn only every 2-3 weeks with ½ inch of water if we don't get rain.
- Do not allow heavy accumulations of leaves to pile up on the lawn area.



ORNAMENTALS:

- It's a good time to plant irises, daylilies, and other perennials.
- Divide spring and summer-flowering perennials during fall.

