



Guilford Gardening Journal

Timely Tips for Your Central North Carolina Garden

August

Ornamentals & Houseplants

- Do NOT prune after August 15th.
- Do not prune spring flowering plants like rhododendron or azaleas as next year's flower buds are beginning to form.
- Avoid fertilizing ornamentals now so they harden off before winter.
- Repot houseplants making sure to inspect them for insects that may have gotten on while outside for the summer. Check plants for insects such as scales, aphids, and spider mites.

Edibles

- Harvest veggies and fruits regularly and enjoy!
- Strawberries will benefit from a feeding of nitrogen fertilizer.
- Allow strawberry runners to develop into new daughter plants. This will increase your next year's harvest.
- Practice good sanitation to help prevent future disease. Clean up debris around plants regularly.
- You can still plant green beans for a late crop. You can also start setting out cool season fall veggies like cabbage, broccoli, collards, lettuce, peas.

Lawns

- Take soil samples so results are in before reseeding & fertilizing in September.
- Control weeds before fall reseeding. Follow label directions and note how long after treatment you need to wait before you can reseed.

Trees & Shrubs

- Do not fertilize shrubs in August– this could promote growth that may not have a chance to harden off before the cold weather sets in.

Miscellaneous

- Don't forget to apply sunscreen before working in your yard. Drink lots of water while working outside for extended periods.
- Take some time to just enjoy your garden – flowers, foliage, and fruits & veggies!

For further information on these topics or any other gardening questions, please call our InfoLine at 336-641-2404 to speak with a Master Gardener volunteer or send an email to guilfordmg@gmail.com

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