



Guilford Gardening Journal

Timely Tips for Your Central North Carolina Garden

December

Ornamentals & Houseplants

- Plant any remaining spring bulbs.
- Clean up any frost damage on perennials.
- Keep poinsettias healthy. Don't overwater, but do water regularly, make sure pot drains well and keep away from drafts.
- Keep an eye on houseplants for insects.
- On cold nights, move houseplants back from windows. Don't close the curtains around them.

Edibles

- Store leftover seeds in a cool, dry location.
- Start thinking about your vegetable garden plan for next year. Peruse seed catalogs.
- Harvest collards.

Lawns

- Clean, oil, and perform maintenance on lawn mower.
- Remove leaves & debris from the lawn regularly.

Trees & Shrubs

- Light pruning can be done on evergreen shrubs. Don't do any heavy pruning. But you can always removed damaged, dangerous, diseased, or dead branches.
- Cut greenery & berries for holiday decorating – evergreens, holly, magnolias, dried seed heads make nice decorations.

Miscellaneous

- Clean & oil garden tools before storing for winter.
- Avoid using salt for ice as it may injure plants. Use Ice melt products instead.
- Think about where you want to add plants for winter interest next year.

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

Taylor Jones, Extension Agent
Agriculture – Consumer & Home Horticulture
Guilford County Cooperative Extension
336-641-2400



NC State University and N.C. A&T State University commit themselves to positive action to secure equal opportunity and prohibit discrimination and harassment regardless of age, color, disability, family and marital status, genetic information, national origin, political beliefs, race, religion, sex (including pregnancy), gender identity, sexual orientation and veteran status. NC State, N.C. A&T, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating. Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by 5 business days before the event to Lauren Taubert at 336-641-2400.