



# Guilford Gardening Journal

*Timely Tips for Your Central North Carolina Garden*

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## July

### Ornamentals & Houseplants

- Continue to pinch back chrysanthemums to encourage bushy growth.
- Remove faded flowers on perennials.
- Be diligent about watering, especially containers & hanging baskets.

### Edibles

- Harvest veggies regularly and enjoy!
- If you're having problems with critters eating your tomatoes, try picking them as soon as you see the first blush of pink. Ripen them inside on the counter.
- Water tomatoes, peppers & other summer crops regularly in the heat. Water the soil, not the leaves, and water deeply to encourage deeper root growth.
- Tomatoes won't set fruit if it's too hot.
- Plants of Brussel sprouts & collards can be set out. And you can plant another crop of green beans.
- Pick blackberries, blueberries, raspberries, peaches and other fruit.
- Remove fruiting canes of raspberry & blackberry plants after the harvest is over.

### Lawns

- Reduce watering frequency of lawns to increase drought tolerance. Fescue goes dormant in the heat.
- Let lawn clippings fall on the grass if you have a mulching mower – it returns nutrients to the soil.

### Trees & Shrubs

- Keep newly planted trees and shrubs watered well and mulched.

### Miscellaneous

- Put up a rain gauge to make sure your plants are getting enough water.
- Dry some flowers for use in arrangements in winter.
- Don't forget to apply sunscreen before working in your yard. Drink lots of water while working outside for extended periods.

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](mailto:guilfordmg@gmail.com)

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