



Guilford Gardening Journal

Timely Tips for Your Central North Carolina Garden

June

Ornamentals & Houseplants

- Mulch flower gardens for summer to control weeds and conserve moisture.
- Remove dead foliage from spring bulbs.
- Plant summer blooming bulbs & other flowering plants before it gets too hot. Plan to water what you plant until they are established.
- Pinch back chrysanthemums and dahlias to encourage bushy growth.

Edibles

- Remove suckers from base of fruit trees.
- Remove fallen fruit under fruit trees to help discourage insects & diseases.
- Mulch your vegetable garden to conserve moisture and control weeds.
- Pinch herbs to keep them bushy and fresh with new growth. The best time to harvest herbs is just before flowering.
- Continue to set out summer vegetables, like tomatoes, green beans, cucumbers, melon.
- Keep your veggies watered well. Water the soil, not the leaves, and water deeply to encourage deeper root growth.

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

- Prune azaleas & rhododendrons when they finish blooming. (if needed), but before around July 4th. Pruning these plants after mid-summer will remove the buds of next year's flowers.
- Inspect conifers for bagworms. If there are only a few, pick off or cut off, and crush. For larger infestations before the bag is closed up, insecticide is an option. Always follow label directions.
- Keep newly planted trees and shrubs watered well.

Miscellaneous

- Japanese beetles will likely begin showing up — you can either ignore some damage, hand pick by knocking them into soapy water or apply a pesticide (follow label directions). Japanese beetle traps have not been proven effective at reducing plant damage.
- 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

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.