



Guilford Gardening Journal

Timely Tips for Your Central North Carolina Garden

November

Ornamentals & Houseplants

- Pinch tops of pansies & snapdragons to remove stocky growth.
- Mulch landscape beds and semi-hardy plants. Move tender plants in containers to a protected area.
- Finish digging any tender bulbs, like gladiolus or caladiums, to overwinter in a protected place.
- Plant spring bulbs like daffodils when the soil cools down. Try some other bulbs like summer snowflake (*Leucojum* species) or Striped Squill (*Puschkinia*). Be cautious with tulips & crocuses if you have deer.
- Clean up rose beds.
- Keep flower beds clean of debris.

Edibles

- Continue to plant garlic.
- Clean up your vegetable beds before cold sets in. Mulch bare soil with chopped leaves or straw to keep down weeds.
- Mulch strawberries with straw.

Lawns

- Fertilize cool-season grasses like fescue with 1 pound of Nitrogen per 1000 square feet.
- Remove fallen leaves and branches regularly from your lawn.

Trees & Shrubs

- Lightly trim hollies and evergreens such as magnolia and boxwood for holiday decorating, but don't do heavy pruning.
- Once the leaves have fallen, look for green "balls" of mistletoe in trees. If any are low enough, collect some for holiday decorating.
- If weather is mild, plant trees & shrubs.

Miscellaneous

- Roll up garden hoses & store. Shut off and drain outdoor water pipes including irrigation systems.
- Set up bird feeders and provide a source of unfrozen water.
- Clean gutters of debris & leaves before cold sets in.
- Last chance to get a soil test free until next year. After Dec 1, there is a fee for homeowners until April 1. Mail samples by Nov. 15th so they arrive in time.

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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