

September Gardening Tips



Joe Pye Weed

Plants in Flower

- Crapemyrtle, Rose-of-Sharon, Dahlia, Canna, Ginger Lily, Chrysanthemum, Spider Lily, Fall Crocus, Liriope, Sedum, Asters, Goldenrod, [Joe Pye Weed](#), and summer annuals.

Fertilizing

- NONE – See what’s happening in Lawn Care.

Planting

- September is a good time to set out landscape plants. Shop early to find the nicest shrubs.
- When planting containerized plants, try to be certain to disturb or “open up” the plants’ root ball.

- Set out new chrysanthemum plants this month.
- Plant pansies to add color to your yard in the autumn, winter and spring months.
- Groundcovers will become well established if planted now.
- Transplant any evergreen trees or shrubs that need moving this month.
- Plant the following fall vegetables in September: mustard, onion, radish and turnip.

Pruning

- Do NOT prune shrubs in September or October.
- Remove “weed” or unnecessary trees from your landscape.
- Rootprune any trees or plants you plan to move next spring.

Spraying

- Spray the following landscape shrubs for the following insect pests: arborvitae, hemlock and juniper(spider mites), azalea and pyracantha (lace bug) and euonymus (scale). .
- Spray for peach tree borer on your nectarine and peach tree trunks.
- Continue with rose spray program.
- Keep a close eye on all fall vegetable plants. Insects and diseases are more severe in the autumn.
- Control the following woody weeds by spraying the recommended herbicide: trumpet creeper, and blackberry.

Lawn Care

- Tall fescue and bluegrass lawns should be seeded this month. Remember to mulch the newly seeded areas with wheat or barley straw. Keep watered.
- Fertilize and lime your tall fescue lawns according to soil test results.
- Do NOT fertilize zoysia now.
- Homeowners can apply an insecticide for lawn grubs in early September if needed.

Propagation

- Spring flowering bulbs can be divided and replanted this month. Daffodils will be the bulbs that most likely need this consideration.
- Divide peonies.

Specific Chores

- Clean up garden sprayers and lawn equipment if not in use.
- Prepare house plants to reenter your home. Check them carefully for insect pests.
- If you do not have a fall vegetable garden, it is a good time to chop, burn or discard dead vegetable plants.
- Look for spring flowering bulbs to plant in October.
- You can get last year's poinsettia to flower by placing it in total uninterrupted darkness for 15 hours a day, starting the last week of the month and continuing until colored bracts appear. Give them plenty of sunlight during the day.
- Build or buy a compost bin in anticipation of fall leaves.
- Repot houseplants.
- Pot up Basil, Chives, Parsley, Sage and Rosemary for that sunny window.