

August Garden Calendar

Local Horticulture Happenings:

Participate in “Back to Gardening” classes in Pottorf Hall, CiCo Park

Visit the “Butterfly Garden” at the Sunset Zoo

Vegetables and Fruits

Water about 1 inch per week
Plant a fall garden, beets, carrots, beans, and turnips for autumn harvest
Plant transplants of broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage for fall production
Harvest crops on a regular basis for season long production
Ease fruit loads on branches by propping with wooden supports
Net ripening fruit to protect from hungry birds
Fertilize strawberry bed for added flower bud development
Turn compost pile and add water when dry

Flowers

Apply 1 to 1 ½ inches of water per week to gardens
Divide irises and daylilies during this dormant period
Make last application of fertilizer to roses by mid month
Control black spot and other rose diseases
Fertilize mums, hardy asters, and other fall blooming perennials
Deadhead annuals to encourage late season blossoms
Fertilize annuals to produce new growth and fall blooms
Sow hollyhocks, poppies, and larkspur for spring blooms
Prepare for fall bulb planting by making orders or researching varieties
Take cuttings from geraniums and begonias for wintering indoors

Lawns

Water bluegrass one to two times, per week, applying a total of about 1 ½ inches of water
Water tall fescue one to two times, per week, applying a total of 1 inch of water
Apply last application of fertilizer to zoysia by mid month
Be on the look out for grubs and apply proper control methods
Start planning for fall renovation projects such as aerating and seeding of cool-season grasses
Check sharpness of mower blades and repair
Mow turf as needed depending on summer growth
Destroy unwanted zoysia and Bermuda
Take a soil test to determine a fertility program

Trees and Shrubs

Water young trees every 1 to 2 weeks by thoroughly soaking the root system
Prune and shape hedges
Check mulch layers and add if needed
Prune broken, dead or crossing limbs for healthier plants
Check young trees and shrubs for girdling wires, and ropes from planting
Avoid fertilizing ornamentals now so they harden off before winter
Hand remove bagworms

Houseplants

Water houseplants regularly and fertilize to promote growth
Check plants for insects such as scales, aphids, and spider mites
Wash plants to remove dust layers
Make cuttings and repot plants before summer sun slips away

“Knowledge
for Life”

Additional resources for the month: