

OCTOBER GARDENING

Plant Plants	<p>Its time to plant Fall & Winter color.</p> <p>Annuals - Alyssum, Calendula, Dianthus, Dusty Miller, Mums, Ornamental Cabbage, Pansies, Petunia, Snapdragons, Stock, Violas etc.</p> <p>Perennials - Finish dividing</p> <p>Seeds - Sow Larkspur, Poppies, Drummond Phlox, Sweet Alyssum, etc.</p> <p>Bulbs - Good selection in the Nursery's now. Plant now -Blood lilies & Lycoris At the end of the month plant Anemones, Crocus, Daffodils, Dutch Iris, Freesia, Snowflakes etc.</p> <p>Wildflowers - Remember to sow wildflower seed (September - December) for beautiful Springtime color</p>
Plant Veggies	<p>Plant now –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broccoli, Cauliflower, Carrot, Cabbages, Greens, Lettuces, Radishes, Sugar Snap Peas, Swiss Chard, etc.
Plant Herbs	<p>Plant now –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basil, Cilantro, Dill, Mints, Parsley, Rosemary, Sage, etc.
Roses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enjoy Fall blooms. Remember to deadhead to encourage more blooms.
Trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great time to plant trees and shrubs.
Weeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to weed
Mulch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mulch to deter weeds and conserve moisture. Careful not to pile to much mulch on Bearded Iris they will rot in our Winter and Spring rains.
Prune	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadhead spent blooms on roses and plants as needed to encourage new blooms. Still time to lightly prune perennials.
Fertilize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blooming Annuals, Perennials, & Veggies • Lawn - around Mid-October

Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hanging Baskets daily • Newly planted Trees, Shrubs, Annuals & Perennials until established
Pest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch for Cabbage Loopers in vegetable garden. Hand pick or treat with BT (its organic).
Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep fresh water in birdbaths • Feeders clean and filled • Hummingbird feeder's cleaned and filled
Butterflies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plant perennial nectar plants, Lantana, Coneflowers, Salvias, etc.
Other Critters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a fresh source of water placed on the ground to drink from.

Note: Here is a **Planting Guide** for bulbs that I found in the Houston Chronicle many years ago.

Planting By The Holidays
Kathy Huber, Houston Chronicle

Halloween - Plant smaller bulbs such as crocus, anemones and ranunculus. Pre-soak ranunculus and anemone tubers for several hours in tepid water and rooting hormone before planting. If bulb-digging squirrels have been a problem, cover the area with chicken wire .

Veterans Day (Nov.11) - Start paperwhites indoors in pots of water with pebbles for holiday blooms.

Thanksgiving - Plant alliums, amaryllis, daffodils, freesia, hyacinths, grape hyacinths, rain lilies, crocuses

New Year's Day - pre-chilled tulips

Happy Gardening!

Debbie