



## NOVEMBER IN THE GARDEN

Sources: Texas Garden Almanac by Dr. Doug Welsh, Professor & Horticulturist/Texas A&M University, Fort Bend County Master Gardeners, Inc. ([www.fbmg.com](http://www.fbmg.com)) and A Garden Book for Houston and the Texas Gulf Coast by Lynn M. Herbert and the River Oaks Garden Club.

### Garden Tasks



- \*Ready, set, begin the big fall clean-up of all your perennial and annual beds! Mix in compost to prepare them for cool-season flower plantings. If you do not plan on planting until spring, spread a cover of mulch over the surface.
- \*Fertilize established flowers with moderate applications of fertilizer every 4-6 weeks to keep them at their best.
- \*Divide and reset spring-blooming perennials including daylilies, iris, oxeye daisies, coneflowers, Louisiana phlox, coreopsis, and Katie ruellia.
- \*Do not do any significant pruning or fertilizing to fruit trees as they are beginning their dormant season.
- \*If winter weeds are making an appearance in your beds, hand pull them, then mulch to provide the best and safest way to control them. Use all those fallen leaves as mulch or compost them, but do not bag them up and send them to the landfill!!!
- \*It is not unheard of to get a freeze in our part of the state this month. Remember to protect freeze-sensitive plants by covering them with frost cover, cardboard boxes or blankets. Container plants can simply be moved indoors. If some of your plants do suffer a bit of freeze damage, refrain from pruning off the damage until February or March.
- \*Take cuttings from begonias, coleus, impatiens, geraniums, sweet potato vine, and various herbs to carry over to next spring. Keep them inside or in a protected area.



### What to Plant

- \*You can continue planting cool-season annuals this month. Our part of the state has many more options to choose from such as alyssum, stock, snapdragons, nasturtium, calendula, dianthus, pansies, cyclamen, poppies, violas, fall aster, Mexican bush sage, Mexican mint marigold and copper canyon daisy. These will need some protection in a hard freeze. Some especially hardy choices are ornamental cabbage/kale and dusty miller.
- \*It's time to get those bulbs in the ground. Here are some favorites for our area: agapanthus, allium, alstroemeria (Peruvian lilies), amaryllis, anemones, calla lilies, crinum, dietes (African iris), daffodils/narcissus, freesia, grape hyacinths, star flower, iris (Dutch, Louisiana, walking and some bearded), ixia, leucojum (snowflake), lycoris (hurricane lily), oxalis, rain lilies, ranunculus, sparaxis (wand flower), spider lilies, and watsonia. ,
- \*The following vegetables can be planted by transplants: broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, collards, lettuce, mustard greens, onions, and spinach. In November carrots, lettuce, radishes, snap peas, spinach and turnips can be planted from seed. Now is the time to plant Sequoia, Tangi or Douglas strawberries for spring fruit. In the absence of rain be sure to water to maintain moisture. Fertilize plants (except for peas) every few weeks.
- \*Perennial herbs should be planted now. If you have no room for an herb bed, plant them in your flowerbeds or in containers.
- \*November continues to be a great time to plant new shrubs and trees. It's also time to transplant any that need to be moved.