

JULY'S ORGANIC PLANNING GUIDE

PLANT:

- **Annuals & Tropicals**-Begonias, coleus, caladiums & impatiens for morning sun/shade; for sun: zinnias, pentas, scaevola, periwinkles, moss rose, marigolds, sweet potato vine, tropical hibiscus, mandevilla, etc.
- **Perennials**-Butterfly bush, artemesia, salvia, lantana, Mexican petunia, coneflower, gaillardia, verbena, sedum, coral bells, loosestrife, etc.
- **Roses** (**EarthKind Roses** are heat and drought tolerant and resistant to insect/disease).
- **Trees, palms, shrubs, ornamental grasses & groundcover.** (Hand water throughout the summer while roots get established.) Choose **Crape Myrtles** now while in bloom based on color & mature size you want.
- **Bermuda or St. Augustine sod** and water daily until rooted. It's also a great time to plant **Bermuda seed**.
- **Tomato** and **pepper** plants; **pumpkins** from seed.

PRUNE:

- Spent flowers, leaves & seedheads on **perennials**.
- Cut leggy **annuals** (impatiens, begonia, coleus) back to keep them compact.
- **Shrubs & trees** to reshape. When pruning **Oaks**, use sealant to protect against oak wilt. Prune spent **Crape Myrtle** blooms lightly to encourage another round of color.
- **Mow lawn** regularly at recommended height (1½" for Bermuda; 2-2½" for St. Augustine).

FERTILIZE:

- Newly planted trees and shrubs with **Nature's Guide Root Stimulator** every 2-3 weeks to help prevent transplant shock, increase beneficial microorganisms, and encourage root development.
- Trees, shrubs, flowers, perennials, use **Nature's Guide Natural Blooms**. **Organic rose food** for roses.
- Use **Nature's Guide Corn Gluten Meal 9-0-0** to feed turf and prevent weeds this spring.
- Plants that aren't thriving with **Nature's Guide Tree Therapy** w/corn meal, molasses, greensand, etc.
- Bermuda and St. Augustine with **Nature's Guide 4-3-2 turf food**.
- Add **Texas Greensand** for deep greening in lawns, trees and landscape plants.

BE ON WATCH:

- For bugs & fungus use **Ferti.lome Triple Action** which contains Neem Oil*, an all-purpose organic remedy. **While weather is hot, oils should only be used early in the morning or in the evening!*
- Use **Bonide All Season's Spray Oil*** on plants susceptible to scale (hollies, euonymus, shade & fruit trees). **While weather is hot, oils should only be used early in the morning or in the evening!*
- For fire ants, use **Ferti.lome Come-N-Get-It** w/Spinosad in bait form.
- Use **Sluggo Plus** to control slugs, snails & pillbugs on flowers, foliage and vegetables.
- Apply **Nature's Guide Garrett Juice** once a month to your landscape to increase beneficial microorganisms in the soil and to reduce the need for water.
- Spot treat grassy and broadleaf weeds with **Nature's Guide 20% Vinegar**. **Add 2 oz of Orange Oil per gallon** during warmer weather for enhanced weed killing performance.
- Spray **Ferti.lome Fruit Tree Spray** for insect problems on fruit trees (after bud break).
- Top dress landscape and flower beds with at least a 2 inch layer of **mulch** to help retain moisture.

WATER:

- Most container plants and flower beds in sun will need daily watering. Water shrubs & trees less frequently but deeply to produce hardier, better rooted plants. Inspect sprinkler system regularly to ensure it is working properly. Hand water areas that do not get sprinkled adequately. Use soaker hoses when possible.
- Add **Soil Moist** and **Expanded Shale** before planting and mulch beds 2" deep to improve water retention. Water all plants with **Enviro Raindrops** spray to prolong the effects of good watering.
- Trees installed for less than two years must have special care to ensure a strong and healthy root system. See our Plant Article on **Tree Care for the First Two Years** on our website or come by Covington's for one.

We're open 7 days a week to serve you!