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OCTOBER'S PLANNING GUIDE

Fall Is The BEST Time to Plant!

PLANT:

- **Trees and shrubs.** This is the best time to plant so they'll be well established by summer.
- **Pansies, kale, cabbage, snapdragons, mums, dianthus, petunias, ornamental peppers,** etc. for fall color.
- **Spring-flowering bulbs.** Refrigerate tulips & hyacinths for 45 days+ at 45° and plant after mid-December.
- Dig & divide spring flowering perennials such as daylilies, iris, oxalis, coneflowers, ferns, hostas, etc.
- **Texas Tough Perennials** (Lantana, Salvia, Coneflower, Autumn Sage, Rudbeckia, Asters and many more)
- **Roses** (**EarthKind Roses** are heat and drought tolerant and resistant to insect/disease.)
- **Ryegrass** seed early in the month for green grass all winter.

PRUNE:

- **Perennials** by removing seed heads, dead foliage and old flowers.
- **Shrubs** as needed to reshape and remove dead branches—save major pruning for late winter.
- **Trees** as needed to remove dead or damaged limbs—save major limbs for late fall or early winter. Remove unwanted surface roots—limit removal to 1 or 2 significant roots each year.
- **Tropical plants** you want to move indoors for the winter.

FERTILIZE:

- Pansies & other annuals with **Hi-Yield Blood/Bone Meal**, **Osmocote** and/or water-soluble plant food.
- Roses to promote growth and to set buds for the fall with **Ferti.lome Rose Food**.
- Newly planted trees and shrubs every 3-4 weeks with **Ferti.lome Root Stimulator**.
- Lawn with **Covington's Premium Lawn Fertilizer** or try our new **Covington's "High Performance" all Nitrogen 25-0-0** early in the month. This slow-release, high nitrogen fertilizer is designed for North Texas turf. This last application for the year will winter over the lawn.
- Trees, shrubs, vines, groundcover and perennials with **Covington's Special**, a 12-6-6 slow release fertilizer.
- Add **Ironite** for iron-deficient lawns, trees, shrubs and other plants to encourage greening.

BE ON WATCH:

- Apply **Dimension** pre-emergent herbicide early in the month to prevent grassy weeds & some broadleaf weeds from emerging in winter to next spring. Use **Portrait or Gallery** for broadleaf weeds that are tough to control like dandelion, henbit & clovers.
- Spot treat broadleaf weeds in St. Augustine & Bermuda w/**Ferti.lome Weed-Out**; spot treat Dallisgrass with **Hi-Yield Kill-Zall**.
- Take all Patch and Brown Patch in St. Augustine; control with **Ferti.lome F-Stop** granular fungicide.
- Aphids, spider mites, mealy bugs, scale, other problem insects; control with **Bonide Systemic Insecticide**.
- Use **Hi-Yield Fire Ant Killer** for fire ants.
- Powdery mildew, rust, black spot and a host of disease and fungi that attack hawthorne, photinias, roses, crape myrtles and more. Treat with **Ferti.lome Systemic Fungicide**.

WATER:

- Container plants & flower beds in sunny areas will still need regular watering. Water shrubs & trees less often, but deeply to produce hardier, better rooted plants throughout your entire landscape.
- 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 and pick one up.
- To improve water retention, add **Soil Moist** and **Expanded Shale** when planting and then mulch the beds.