

SEPTEMBER'S ORGANIC PLANNING GUIDE

PLANT:

- **Annuals for instant color** such as **Fall Petunias, Sweet Potato Vine, Dianthus and Snapdragons.**
- **Texas Tough Perennials**—**Salvia, Lantana, Mexican Petunia, Coneflower, Sedum & more.**
- **Roses** (**EarthKind varieties incl Knockout Roses** are heat/drought tolerant and resistant to insect/disease.)
- **Trees, palms, shrubs, groundcover.** Last chance to choose **Crape Myrtles** in bloom to get desired color.
- **Bermuda or St. Augustine sod** by mid-month and **Ryegrass** seed later in the month.
- **Cole crops late in the month: Brussels sprouts, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, collard greens, chard.**

PRUNE:

- **Continuous-blooming bush roses** by 1/3 to promote fall flowers.
- **Perennials** to remove seed heads, dead foliage & flowers; **overgrown annuals** to encourage more blooms.
- **Shrubs and trees** lightly to maintain shape and to remove dead or damaged limbs.
- **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, annuals, perennials w/**Nature's Guide Natural Blooms** or **Happy Frog Organic Plant Food**.
- Use **Nature's Guide Corn Gluten Meal 9-0-0** to feed turf and prevent weeds. Corn Gluten Meal is great in vegetable gardens as well to prevent weeds. Also, spread **Dry Molasses** to enhance weed control.
- 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 for winterizing**.
- Add **Texas Greensand** for deep greening in lawns, trees and landscape plants.

BE ON WATCH:

- For elm tree damage from elm leaf beetle larva use **Hi-Yield Thuricide** at dusk.
- For bugs use **Ferti.lome Spinosad** or **Natural Guard Insecticidal Soap**.
- Use **Sluggo Plus with Spinosad** to control slugs, snails & pillbugs on flowers and foliage.
- 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!*
- Spray **Ferti.lome Fruit Tree Spray** for insect problems on fruit trees (after bud break).
- For fire ants, use **Ferti.lome Come And Get It Spinosad Bait**.
- For fungus-**Nature's Guide Garrett Juice**, **Horticultural Corn Meal**, or **Nature's Guide Potassium Bicarbonate**.
- Use **Horticultural Corn Meal** on Bermuda and St. Augustine grass for disease control.
- 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** to enhance the kill on weeds and grasses.

WATER:

- Most container plants and flower beds in sun need daily watering. Water shrubs & trees less frequently but deeply to produce hardier, better rooted plants. Inspect sprinkler system regularly. Hand water areas that do not get sprinkled adequately. Use soaker hoses when possible.
- Add **Expanded Shale** (or **Covington's Soil Builder**) & **Soil Moist**, before planting. Mulch beds 2” deep to improve water retention. Water plants w/ **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.

Plan now for Fall Landscaping Projects. Visit with one of our nursery professionals for assistance with your plant needs, OR call our Landscape Services Team at (972) 475-5888 Ext. 5 for professional landscape design and installation or to schedule your Fall color change.