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SEPTEMBER'S PLANNING GUIDE

Fall is the Best Time to Plant!

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:

- 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.** 20 lb. bag covers 4,000 sq.ft. 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.
- Flowers with **Osmocote** or **Ferti.lome 20-20-20 water soluble plant food** to promote fall blooms.
- Iron-deficient plants with **Ironite** or **Ferti.lome Soil Acidifier Plus Iron** to encourage greening.

BE ON WATCH:

- Apply **Dimension** pre-emergent herbicide this 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.
- For elm tree damage from elm leaf beetle larva use **Hi-Yield Thuricide** at dusk.
- Use **Hi-Yield Grub Free Zone II** for grubs/chinch bugs; **Ferti.lome Carbaryl** for grasshopper infestation.
- Aphids, spider mites, mealy bugs, other problem insects; control with **Bonide Systemic Insecticide.** Treat scale & aphid infestations on Crape Myrtles with **Ferti.lome Tree & Shrub Systemic Insect Drench.**
- Use **Ferti.lome Systemic Fungicide** for powdery mildew/diseases/fungi on hawthorne, photinias, roses, etc.
- Use **Ferti.lome F-Stop Granules** for lawn fungal infections such as Take All Patch or brown patch in St. Augustine or spread **Canadian Brown Spagnum Peat Moss** 1/2 " layer on infected area & water in.
- Spot treat broadleaf weeds in St. Augustine & Bermuda w/**Ferti.lome Weed-Out;** spot treat Dallisgrass with **Hi-Yield Kill-Zall.** For nutsedge in St. Augustine and Bermuda use **Sedgehammer or Image.**
- Continue spray program for fruit and nut trees. Use **Bonide Fruit Tree Spray.**
- Fall webworms & apply **BT, Hi-Yield Thuricide, or Ferti.lome Dipel Dust.**

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.