



PULASKI COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Garden Tips for the Calendar Year

JANUARY

- Deadhead and fertilize winter annuals on a mild day.
- Protect plants from drastic temperature changes.
- Check for winter weeds in lawn.
- Keep ice and snow off plants.

FEBRUARY

- Prune fruit trees, grape vines, and roses.
- Prune summer blooming shrubs including crepe myrtles, altheas, buddleias and summer blooming spireas.
- Cut back and divide ornamental grasses.

MARCH

- Watch the weather and protect emerging plants if a freeze is predicted.
- Divide summer and fall blooming perennials as they emerge.
- If you plan to prune evergreens more than 1/3 do so soon.

APRIL

- Let the soil warm before planting tomatoes.
- Prune and fertilize spring blooming trees and shrubs immediately after bloom.
- Prep warm season turf grass with aeration and dethatching where needed.

MAY

- Move houseplants outdoors, gradually exposing them to sunlight.
- Prune spring blooming shrubs after bloom. Fertilize once a year.
- Cut foliage off your spring bulbs six weeks after bloom.
- Prevent bagworms on evergreens with weekly sprays of Bt or Sevin from May to mid-June.

JUNE

- Harvest vegetables early in the day for best flavor.
- Plant tropical flowers for heat-loving summer color.
- Deadhead annuals and perennials to keep them blooming. Fertilize annuals regularly.

JULY

- Water your plants, especially plants in containers.
- If your iris are too crowded, now is the time to dig and divide.
- Fertilize container plants and annual beds every two weeks. Deadhead.

AUGUST

- Continue to water weekly as needed.
- Leggy annuals should be pinched back and fertilized.
- Deadhead annuals and perennials to keep them blooming.
- Clean up early season perennials as they begin to dieback.

SEPTEMBER

- Monitor plants for water needs, insects and diseases.
- Last time to fertilize shrubs and lawn.
- Dig and divide spring blooming perennials.
- Preserve flowers by hanging them upside down to air-dry.
- Replenish mulch around all trees and shrubs.
- Add mums, asters and dianthus for extra fall color.

OCTOBER

- Plant wildflower seeds for a show next spring.
- Dig and store tender bulbs including caladiums and fancy elephant ears.
- Plant winter color including pansies, flowering kale, snapdragons and violas.
- Plant spring blooming bulbs.

NOVEMBER

- Winterize lawnmower- drain fuel, disconnect spark plugs, sharpen blades.
- Rake and mulch.
- Clean up perennials as they die back.

DECEMBER

- Prune carefully as you gather greens for holiday decorations.
- Add extra mulch on tender perennials after the first hard frost.

Join Pulaski County Master Gardeners and learn more about gardening.

For information on classes, call Pulaski County Extension Office

(501)340-6650 or go to www.uaex.edu/yard-garden

