

Gardening Tips – November

Don't forget to supplement rainfall and snow by watering during the winter months. 10 inches of snow = 1 inch of water.

Fertilize cool-season grasses (fescues) again in early November.

Mow cool-season lawns, as needed, at a mower height of 2 ½ inches.

November through March is the best time to prune most trees and shrubs. The exception would be spring flowering shrubs like forsythia, lilac, quince, some spirea, etc.

Soil testing is recommended every 3 years and correcting nutrient deficiencies before winter is a good idea.

Continue to clean gardens of debris – damaged limbs, dead or diseased plants, leaves.

Plant spring blooming bulbs – tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, etc. – when <u>soil</u> temperatures are below 50 degrees. Check mesonet.org for soil temperatures in your area.

Control scale insects on crape myrtles, if present, with dormant oil spray. Apply spray when temperatures are above 40 degrees.

Clean tools of dirt before storing for the winter. Coat metal surfaces with an application of oil to prevent rust.

Drain gasoline from lawnmower and weed eater if you will not be using them for cool-season lawns during the winter.

Drain water from hoses and store in garage or shed. Don't forget to drain your lawn sprinkler lines, too.

Wrap or cover water hydrants to prevent freezing over winter.

Gather more seeds for use in next year's garden.

Mulch gardens to retain moisture and protect plants from cold weather.

Water plants well 24 hours before a predicted freeze to protect plants.

Continue to plant spring blooming bulbs when soil temperature is below 50 degrees.