



August Garden Tips

- Remove old plants that have stopped producing to eliminate a shelter for insects and disease organisms. Replant sites with chard, quick maturing beans or cucumbers, leafy greens etc.
- Pick summer squash and zucchini every day or two to keep the plants producing.
- To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.
- Do not add weeds with mature seed heads to the compost pile. Many weed seeds will remain viable and germinate next year when the compost is used.
- Gather herbs and flowers for drying and preserving. The best time to gather herbs is during the mid-morning hours, just after the dew has dried but before the sun causes them to wilt. Tie herbs in clusters with the stems attached and hang upside down to dry or dry in the microwave.
- Fruiting plants, such as hollies and firethorn, need regular waterings during dry spells to ensure berries mature and won't drop.
- Even though tomatoes continue to ripen after picking, fruits develop greatest flavor when allowed to ripen on plants. The exception is cherry tomatoes since many varieties are prone to splitting. Pick any almost ripe ones before a heavy rain.
- Stop pruning evergreens. If you prune now, you risk some plants pushing new growth which may be killed or injured by winter's chill.
- Water plants deeply once or twice a week depending on the heat and humidity.
- Check water needs of hanging baskets daily and sometimes twice daily. Wind and sun dry them quickly. Add fertilizer to them if they look yellow and hungry
- Cut fruiting raspberry canes to the ground after they have stopped producing fruit