

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLIST

August

There is still a lot of Summer left to enjoy! Add fresh color to give containers a new lease on life, give some extra love to vegetable beds by replanting blank areas with Fall veggies, and don't forget to provide large trees and spring-flowering shrubs with a nice, long drink of water.



FOR THE GARDEN

Seasonal Color

- ☐ **Replace tired components of container plantings** with colorful Zinnias, Dahlias, and Coleus.
- ☐ **Plant blooming annuals** like Marigolds, Zinnias, Vinca, and Million Bells to liven up pots or landscape plantings.

Planting & Maintenance

- ☐ **Mulch beds** with **G&B Soil Building Conditioner**.
- ☐ **Provide temporary shade** for new/vulnerable plantings when prolonged high temps are expected, and water with diluted liquid fertilizer like **Alaska Fish Emulsion**.
- ☐ **Deep water** Spring-blooming and established landscape plants for bigger blooms next season; deep water mature trees/shrubs monthly during hot, dry weather.
- ☐ **Make watering easy while you're away** and leave clear instructions for friends that are checking on your plants; move pots and hanging baskets into shady locations.
- ☐ **Trade out old hose** for a tangle-free **Garden Hose Coil**.
- ☐ **Shear and shape** broad-leaved shrubs/hedges; protect with shade cloth to prevent sunburn during high heat.
- ☐ **Lightly tip prune to shape** deciduous trees, Japanese maples, and summer-flowering shrubs after bloom.
- ☐ **Check for pests and treat as needed:**
 - » Root weevils in ornamental shrubs and flowers like Rhodies/Hollyhocks—treat with **beneficial nematodes**.
 - » Scale insects in Camellias, Holly, and Maples; treat as needed with **beneficial nematodes** and/or **neem oil**.
 - » Caterpillars on veggies, Geraniums, Petunias; control with **Bonide Captain Jack's** or remove by hand.
 - » Yellow jackets and wasps; control with lures/traps, but remember—they prey on caterpillars and other pests.

Edible Gardening

- ☐ **Fertilize summer crops** such as Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Beans, and Squash for continued harvests with **G&B Tomato, Vegetable & Herb Fertilizer**.
- ☐ **Clean/fertilize Strawberry bed** and add new plants.
- ☐ **Check apple maggot traps**; spray apple trees if needed. Watch for codling moths and spider mites—remove by hand or spray with **Bonide Captain Jack's**.

- ☐ **Plant Fall veggies in faded beds:** Cauliflower, Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, Kale, Spinach, Turnips, and Parsnips.
- ☐ **Add mid-summer planting of Peas** for Fall harvest.
- ☐ **Monitor Potatoes and Tomatoes** for blight; remove affected foliage/fruits, and sterilize pruning shears.
- ☐ **Prune Raspberries** and other Cane Berries after harvest; remove the oldest canes entirely.



FOR THE LAWN

- ☐ **Begin soil prep now to establish new lawn** when temps cool down (optimal time is August through mid-October):
 - » Test pH and add **lime** if needed
 - » Kill existing weeds
 - » Measure square footage to know how much compost, fertilizer, and lawn seed to buy
 - » Add early layer of mulch or soil builder to blank areas
- ☐ **Prepare lawn renovation supplies** for Fall rain:
 - » **Super Sweet Lime**
 - » **G&B Soil Building Conditioner**
 - » **G&B Lawn Fertilizer**
 - » **Lawn seed** (over-seed at rate of 3.5–5 lbs per 1000 sq ft; seed bare ground with 7–10 lbs per 1000 sq ft)



INDOOR GARDENING

- ☐ **Provide air circulation and increase humidity** (misting) to houseplants to make up for dry air.
- ☐ **Continue to fertilize and monitor for pests**—wipe leaves regularly for prevention.
- ☐ **Evaluate repotting needs:** Plan to repot before growth slows down in Fall/Winter; refresh soil in all indoor plants (replace top layer with worm castings and fresh soil).



JUST FOR FUN

- ☐ **Sit out and enjoy your garden!** Read a book or watch and listen to the birds and bees to decompress.
- ☐ **Pick and eat a homegrown feast.** Invite friends over for a garden-to-table dinner; ask them to bring a dish too!
- ☐ **Gather friends for craft time.** Plant sedums/succulents to create a succulent dish garden for your patio table.