



Glenn County Master Gardeners Offer Beginning of Fall Tips



Alyse Pendo, Glenn County Master Gardener, picking an eggplant from her vegetable garden in Orland.

With summer coming to an end soon and the weather cooling down, Gardeners need to think in terms of the coming fall. Here are a few tips to help you get through this transitional period from the UC Glenn County Master Gardeners.

- Continue to weed. As long as it is still the growing season, it is also the weeding season.
 - As always, keep after the snails.
 - Aphids might still be a problem. If so, use a strong spray from the hose to wash them away.
 - Ants are likely to become a problem soon. Discourage them by picking up fallen fruit and sealing off cracks that would lead them into the house.
- Hold off fertilizing most plants in preparation for winter, but DO fertilize all flowering plants that are about to bloom.
 - Pinch off dead flowers.
 - Plant the vegetable garden with beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, garlic, leeks onions and shallots.
 - Keep the garden well-watered, particularly citrus trees.
 - Shop for bulbs as soon as they are available for the best selection. Buy spring-blooming bulbs, corms, tubers, and rhizomes such as anemones, crocus, daffodils, hyacinth, Dutch iris, freesias, narcissus, ranunculus and tulips.
 - Carefully dig up and divide overgrown agapanthus, bearded iris, daylily, primrose and Shasta daisy.
 - Fall is the best time to plant trees and shrubs! They will develop sturdy root systems over the winter rainy period and burst into top growth next spring. It is usually better to buy a tree in a smaller container than a larger container; the root system of the smaller tree will adapt better to new soil than that of an older tree. After a few years, the smaller tree will have usually grown taller than the originally larger tree. The exceptions will be slow-growing trees.
 - In September the formula for fertilizing modern roses should be one that encourages flowering but no growth. Use a fertilizer that has no nitrogen. A popular formula has the numbers 0-10-10 on the package.
 - Plant native plants at this time. They are designed to absorb winter rain and often suffer when confronted with summer water. Most native plant societies hold their largest sales in October.
 - Adjust your sprinklers to water less now.
 - This is an excellent time to put in a new lawn. De-thatch and aerate existing lawns.
 - Check your hummingbird feeders. Make sure they are clean, and rinse with a mild bleach solution to kill any disease.

For a monthly checklist on what to do in your garden, go to this website from UC Agricultural and Natural Resources: <https://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/landscapechecklist/>

Click on “Glenn County - lower elevation” and subscribe to their free newsletter.

For more information, contact the UC Glenn County Master Gardner’s Plant Clinic on Wednesday afternoon from 2 to 4 PM in the UC Cooperative Extension Office. Phone: 530-865-1107. You can also send an email to anrmglenn@ucanr.edu or submit a question on our website at <http://ucanr.edu/sites/glennmg/>.

Submitted by: Donna Moore, UC Master Gardener of Glenn County