

# GARDENING BY THE MOON

## SUMMER IS STILL HERE, BUT FALL IS ON THE WAY!

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School is starting and fall is on the way, but we are still talking about the extreme heat and drought conditions in Texas! Watering is restricted in many areas, so plants are still struggling. In addition to heat and drought damage to plants, the winter storm, Uri, in February of 2021, also damaged plants and the heat stress is causing them to die.

With fall approaching, now is a good time to begin helping with recovery of your plant materials. Your turf, trees, shrubs, ground cover, vines and perennials have all been affected by stress from summer but there are steps you can take now to help your weakened plant materials.



### TURF AND BEDS:

- Eliminate weed competition. Apply a post-emergent weed control such as Weed Control for Southern Grasses. Treat with Halts pre-emerge for Turf and Preen pre-emerge for beds to control germinating weeds.
- Fertilize to encourage recovery and vigor
- Water according to the days your city allows. Apply multiple run times on days allowed for best utilization of water. Per zone, set spray heads to run 5-10 minutes x 4, rotor heads to run 10-15 minutes x 4 and drip to run 1 hour. Run multiple times to wet to 6" depth.

When temperatures moderate and you can water, remove sod that did not recover and re-sod.



Remove all dead wood from trees, shrubs, and other plant materials!

Control all insects and diseases to prevent further stress on plants.

**COMPOSTING** - This is a good time to build a compost bin. Keep compost wet but not soggy. Compost can be used in your planting beds to prevent weed seed germination and maximize water utilization.

**FUN TIP:** So you can focus on something fun, start planning your color for the fall! You will need to plant fall color in September/October as color becomes available. There are a variety of colors of pansies and violas to choose from.



### FALL IN LOVE WITH FALL!

Use your creative side to add pumpkins, gourds and fall color for an unusual display.



### FALL GARDENING

You can plant the following:

Snap bush beans, lima bush beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, collards, lettuce, mustard, onion seed, parsley, and spinach.

You can also sow bluebonnet seeds and other wildflower seeds for next spring/summer flowering. Purchase seeds from Wildseed Farms.