

August Garden Tips



GENERAL

- ☼ Order spring-flowering bulbs for fall planting.
- ☼ Keep the garden well watered during dry weather.
- ☼ Clean up fallen leaves that can harbor disease and insect pests over the winter.
- ☼ Turn compost pile and keep it moist.
- ☼ Plan landscaping projects now for fall planting.

HOME (Indoor plants and activities)

- ☼ [Take cuttings](#) from plants such as impatiens, coleus, geraniums and wax begonias to overwinter indoors.
- ☼ Cut flowers from the garden to bring a little color indoors or to dry for use later.

LANDSCAPE (Lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers)

- ☼ Don't fertilize and prune woody plants between mid-August and leaf fall. It stimulates late growth that will not have time to harden off properly before winter.
- ☼ Keep faded flowers pinched off bedding plants to promote further flowering and improve plant appearance.
- ☼ Cut strawflowers intended for dried flower arrangements when the blooms are only half open. Tie small bundles of the flowers together and hang them upside down in a well-ventilated place to dry.
- ☼ Cut [sunflowers](#) and dry the heads for roasting or winter bird food.

GARDEN (Vegetables, fruits and herbs)

- ☼ Temperatures above 90°F often lead to poor fruit set in vegetable crops; upper 90's will stop fruit set in most crops.
- ☼ Harvest onions and potatoes after the tops yellow and fall, then cure them in a warm, dry, well-ventilated area.
- ☼ Pick beans, tomatoes, peppers and squash often to encourage further production.
- ☼ Harvest sweet corn and watermelon when ripe.
- ☼ Remove old plants which have stopped producing to reduce insects and disease.
- ☼ To prevent volunteer plants the following spring, remove flowers or harvest seed before it falls from herbs that self-sow such as dill, chamomile and fennel.
- ☼ To reduce the number of pests on your fruit tree for the coming year, pick up and destroy all fallen fruit.
- ☼ Prune out and destroy the raspberry and blackberry canes that bore fruits this year.



Illinois Extension

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August Weekly Planner

Week of _____



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

August Weekly Planner

Week of _____



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday

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Monday

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Thursday

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August Pictures/Sketches/ Observations

