

September

Weather Averages:

Temperature: High 81.4 Low 57.2

Precipitation: 4.3 inches

Lawn & Garden

This is the best time to set out landscape plants. Shop early for the nicest shrubs.

When planting containerized plants, be certain to disturb or "open up" the plants's root ball.

Set out new chrysanthemum plants.

Plant pansies to add color to your yard in autumn, winter, and spring months.

Ground covers will become well established if planted this month.

Transplant evergreen trees or shrubs that need moving.

Plant these fall vegetables: mustard, onion, radish, and turnip.

Treat lawn for grubs.

Tall fescue lawns should be seeded this month. Mulch the newly seeded areas with wheat or barley straw.

Fertilize and lime your tall fescue lawns according to soil test results.

Do Not fertilize warm season grasses like centipedegrass, Bermudagrass, and zoysia now.

Spring flowering bulbs (like daffodils) can be divided and replanted this month.

Pruning

Remove any deadwood on trees and shrubs.

Camellias - Cut flowers to be enjoyed inside.

Remove any underbrush from holly, nandina, pyranth, pyracantha, etc..

Why Plant in the Fall?

Spring is often short and is followed by hot, dry summers. Falls are traditionally cool and moist, making it the ideal time to plant.

In the fall, plant growth has matured and plants are starting to receive signals that prepare them for winter. Soil temperatures are moderate and conditions for root growth are perfect from late August through December. Research has shown that roots will continue to grow until the soil temperature drops below 40°F, therefore fall is an ideal time to plant.

Other Chores:

Spray the following landscape shrubs for the following insects: aborvitae hemlock and juniper (spider mites), azalea and pyracantha (lace bugs) and euonymus(scale).

Continue with rose spray program.

Peach and nectarine trees need a trunk spray for peach tree borers.

Crape Myrtle leaves may be blackened from sooty mold. Help loosen with summer oil.

Keep a close eye on fall vegetables. Insect and diseases are more severe in the autumn.

Spray woody weeds like trumpet creeper, bermudagrass, and blackberry with recommended herbicide.

Fertilize house plants one last time before winter.

Purchase apples at local Burke County apple orchards.

Mulch your landscape plants for the winter.

Clean up garden sprayers and lawn equipment if not in use.

Prepare houseplants to re-enter your home. Bring them inside a little each day, and rid them of insect pests.

If you don't have a fall vegetable garden, chop, burn, or discard dead vegetable plants.

Look for spring flowering bulbs to plant in October.

