

August Horticulture Hints

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- Maintain your vegetable garden. Weed, water and mulch as needed.
- Keep harvesting! This prevents overgrowth and spoilage. Share the abundance with family, friends and food pantries,
- August is a good month to check for grubs and apply grub treatment if needed. Cut 3 sides of a square foot area with a shovel and peel back the sod layer (Do this in several spots at the margins of green and brown grass patches). Grubs will be found on the underside of the sod mat. If you count more than 8 grubs you may want to apply a grub control.
- Check your houseplants for insects, prune if needed and reduce fertilization so plants can adjust to changes in light and temperature.
- Mid-August is the time to divide peonies and any bearded iris you didn't divide last month. Leave at least 3 eyes on peony divisions and replant just below the soil surface.
- Clean up all leaves, fruit, etc. in the orchard and garden to reduce disease problems next year.
- If some of your trees were defoliated by caterpillars in May and June, they may have grown another batch of leaves. Having to leaf out twice in a growing season may deplete a tree's store of energy. Normally fertilizer is not needed, however in this case it may be a good idea to fertilize now or wait until October.
- Continue to water newly planted trees and shrubs.
- Monitor fruit trees and shrubs for insects and disease. The earlier treated, the easier to control.
- Plant fall crops of peas, lettuce, spinach and broccoli early this month.
- Now is the time to re-seed or over-seed your lawn.
- Enjoy your harvest – Bon Appetito!