

# GARDENING TIPS FOR NOVEMBER

Revised 11/19



## Annuals & Perennials

- Plant Lenten rose, peonies, pansies, violas, snapdragons, dianthus and spring bulbs.  
Pansy link: ” <http://www.walterreeves.com/landscaping/pansy-uga-publication/>
- Fertilize previously planted spring flowering bulbs and pansies.
- Top dress perennial beds with 1 to 2 inches of compost. Keep away from crowns of plants.
- Mulch to retain moisture, control soil temperature and diseases.
- Remove faded blooms, dry stems and foliage of perennials that die back after first frost.
- Cut faded chrysanthemums, asters, snapdragons and dianthus to 3 inches above ground.
- Clean up rose beds, perennial beds.
- Dig caladium bulbs, dahlia tubers, elephant ear corms, and ornamental sweet potato tubers for winter storage.
- Clean up dead leaves and other debris to reduce over wintering of insects and diseases. Sanitation is one of the most effective methods of maintaining a healthy garden. Read “Sanitation in the Garden” <http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/cobb/agriculture-and-natural-resources/gardeners-corner.html> Select “Sanitation in the Garden”
- Gently remove fallen leaves from beds. Shred and use as mulch or compost.
- Control weeds. Apply weed pre-emergent.
- See “Winter Protection - Landscape Plants” <http://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.cfm?number=C872>

## Fruits

- Spray for insects and diseases, as required.
- Fall weed control around fruit trees is crucial. Weeds act as hosts to over wintering insects and disease.
- Remove grass and weeds from base of grape vines and fruit trees to help prevent mice and other rodents from damaging the plants.
- Remove diseased and mummified fruit from trees and grape vines. Dispose of them. Do not compost.
- **Remove fallen fruit from the ground. Sanitation is one of the most effective methods of maintaining a healthy garden.**
- Mulch root ball area with 2-4 inches of pinestraw or bark. Do not place mulch against trunk.
- Plant fruit trees, muscadines, blackberries and raspberries.

## Turf

- Fertilize fescue. Needs to be irrigated.
- Do not fertilize Bermuda, centipede or Zoysia.
- Mow fescue at proper height. Keep the blades sharpened.
- Check for fall armyworms.
- Apply lime as required per soil test. Needs to be irrigated.
- Apply post-emergent herbicides as required.
- Water throughout winter if there is insufficient rain. Observe watering restrictions.
- Remove fallen leaves. They will smother turf.
- For detailed information on turf care and diseases go to: [www.georgiaturf.com](http://www.georgiaturf.com)

## Environment

- Non-native invasive plants are a problem in Georgia and the Southeast. It is not only kudzu, Chinese privet, and golden bamboo. Become aware of these exotic pest plants and what you can do to inhibit them. Go to <http://www.gaepcc.org> Click on plant list [http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/fia/manual/Nonnative\\_Invasive\\_Plants\\_of\\_Southern\\_Forests.pdf](http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/fia/manual/Nonnative_Invasive_Plants_of_Southern_Forests.pdf)
- Protect the environment, watersheds and sewer system by the proper disposal of grease, hazardous household products and pesticides. Go to [https://cobbcounty.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2325&Itemid=1494](https://cobbcounty.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2325&Itemid=1494)
- Dispose of pesticides correctly. <http://www.walterreeves.com/tools-and-chemicals/pesticides-disposing>

## Trees and Shrubs

- Plant bare-root, balled and burlap or container grown roses from October thru February.
- Plant trees and shrubs. Be sure to remove synthetic burlap from ball and burlap plants. It does not decompose. Fertilize fall planted shrubs in the spring.

- Transplant trees and shrubs.
  - [https://www.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/publications/PDF\\_files/F-359.pdf](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/forestry/publications/PDF_files/F-359.pdf)
- Water trees and shrubs throughout winter if there is insufficient rain. Observe watering restrictions.
- Cut down and remove trees or shrubs attacked by ambrosia beetles.
- Pull down and dispose of annual vines after a hard freeze.
- Delay pruning since it causes plants to delay going dormant and can increase susceptibility to cold damage. Only prune out dead or diseased material.
- Tie loose rose canes, so they will not sway on windy days.
- Remove and replace mulch under roses to control overwintering diseases.
- Refresh mulch, 3 inches deep, around trees and shrubs. Keep mulch away from trunks. If planting had a disease problem, remove old mulch to help prevent disease in future.
- Pick bagworms from evergreen shrubs.
- Inspect trees and shrubs for scale. Spray with dormant oil now and in early spring.
- Check for various pests and diseases. Prune or spray as required:
  - Azaleas: Southern red mite.
  - Boxwood: Armored scale.
  - Camellia: Southern red mite, tea scale, leaf spot.
  - Dogwood: Algae, lichen
  - Gardenia: Armored scale, galls, leaf spot.
  - Holly: Armored scale, Southern red mite, anthracnose.
  - Indian Hawthorne: Leaf spot
  - Juniper: Bagworms, needle blight, spider mites.
  - Leyland cypress: Bot canker, Seridium canker, needle blight.
  - Roses: Black spot. Remove infected leaves from bush and ground.
  - Roses: Knockout rose problem Read <http://www.walterreeves.com/gardening-q-and-a/rose-rosette-disease/>
  - Roses: See annual rose maintenance schedule
  - <http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/cobb/agriculture-and-natural-resources/gardeners-corner.html> Select “Rose Maintenance Schedule
- Read “Control of Common Pests of Landscape Plants” Bulletin 1074
  - <http://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.html?number=B1074&title=Control%20of%20Common%20Pests%20hcorner.html%20of%20Landscape%20Plants>
- Review “Diagnosing Plant Problems”
- <http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/cobb/agriculture-and-natural-resources/gardeners-corner.html> Select “Diagnosing Plant Diseases
- Read “Fall Perfect for Planting Trees”
  - <http://treesatlanta.org/resources/how-to-plant-your-tree/>
- Read “Planting and Taking Care of Trees During a Drought”
  - <http://www.gfc.state.ga.us/community-forests/management/tree-care/drought/index.cfm>
- Read “Managing Storm Damaged Trees”
  - <http://www.gatrees.org/community-forests/management/trees-storm-safety/MSDTweb.pdf>
  - <http://www.gfc.state.ga.us/community-forests/management/tree-care/drought/index.cfm>
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- Perform a tree survey. Form available at
  - [http://www.gfc.state.ga.us/community-forests/management/trees-storm-safety/HomeownersRole\\_000.pdf](http://www.gfc.state.ga.us/community-forests/management/trees-storm-safety/HomeownersRole_000.pdf)

The Georgia Forestry Commission’s on line service —“Ask the Arborist”. Complete a form and a certified arborist will answer questions and evaluate conditions.

<http://www.gfc.state.ga.us/community-forests/ask-the-arborist/index.cfm>

### Vegetables

- Plant asparagus and onions.
- Harvest winter vegetables regularly to prolong production.
- Mulch to control weeds.
- Clean harvested rows immediately to prevent insect and disease buildup.
- Read “Sanitation in the Garden” <http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices/cobb/agriculture-and-natural-resources/gardeners-corner.html> Select “Sanitation in the Garden”
- Water vegetables, if required.

- Check for various beetles and bugs. Spray as required. Read the label for waiting time between spraying and harvest.
- Sow a cover crop in beds that will not be planted.
- Spread manure, rotted sawdust and leaves over bed and plow under to improve soil tilth.
- Keep a logbook of problems so they can be prevented next year.
- Get soil tests. Fall is the best time to add lime if it is required.

**Water** On March 8, 2018, The Director of Georgia Environmental Protection Division lifted the Drought Level 1 declaration. Outdoor irrigation is permitted 7 days a week before 10AM and after 4PM.

For more information or further clarification please review the [frequently asked questions](#).

We encourage customers to conserve our water resources. Information on indoor and outdoor water conservation can be found on the [Water Efficiency Program pages](#). Cobb County Water System has free conservation kits and comprehensive education resources on how to use water efficiently indoors and outdoors.

- Water slowly and deeply. Deep watering encourages root growth.
- Use drip irrigation or soaker hoses. They use 50% less water than sprinklers.
- Check your irrigation system. (1) Is the timer set correctly? (2) Are all the nozzles working? (3) Are all the nozzles the same type? There is a significant variance in water applied between rotary sprinklers and spray heads.
- Set a timer and/or use a rain gauge when watering the lawn or garden.
- Check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks. Replace washers as required.
- Select plants that are drought tolerant and have low water needs. Group plants with similar water requirements in the same zone. For a listing see <http://www.ecoterrallandscape.com/cgi-bin/ViewTopic.pl?Topic=00-061506dt>
- Use a rain barrel. For instructions to build one: <http://www.bhg.com/gardening/yard/tools/make-a-rain-barrel-save-water/>
- Save water and use it wisely. Don't water the lawn on windy days. Water plants, if required, applying one inch of water per week. **Observe current Georgia watering restrictions.**

Check with your [local water system](#) to determine if they have more restrictive regulations.

### Fire

Outdoor fires are permitted from October 1 thru April 30. For additional information and restrictions:

[https://cobbcounty.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=5297:outdoor-burning&catid=535&Itemid=2046](https://cobbcounty.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=5297:outdoor-burning&catid=535&Itemid=2046) *Screen down for this period's restrictions.*

### Other

Sow wildflower seeds. Poppy seeds need light to germinate.

- Apply 2-3 inches of mulch to reduce evaporation, control weeds, and moderate soil temperatures. Shredded leaves are good mulch.
- Continue adding leaves and other materials to the compost pile. Do not add weeds with ripen seed heads. Seeds remain viable and will germinate next year when compost is used. Turn established compost piles.
- Collect cones and seedpods for craft projects.
- Start amaryllis, paperwhites and hyacinth bulbs in pots for blooms at Christmas.
- As potted poinsettias begin to form red bracts, give them lots of bright light and liquid fertilizer.
- Drain lawn irrigation systems and store water hoses.
- Clean and store gardening tools. Service your lawn mower and sharpen tools.
- Watch for spider mites on houseplants. Several washings with plain water should control them.
- Watch for ladybugs, kudzu bugs and boxelder bugs in home. <http://extension.uga.edu/publications/detail.cfm?number=B1412>
- Seal openings that would allow squirrels and mice to enter the home.
- Fill birdfeeders. Provide water for the birds.
- Analyze your landscape and its microclimates <http://www.ugaurbanag.com/content/microclimate>
- Learn about the plant nutrients found in soil and air and how they are utilized by plants. <http://www.ncagr.gov/cyber/kidswrld/plant/nutrient.htm>

Specific instructions available from the Extension Office: planting and care of annuals, perennials, trees, and shrubs; pest, disease and weed control; turf management, and pruning. Call us at 770 528-4070.

For a soil test, bring 2 cups of dry soil to the Extension Office. Cost is \$9.00 per sample, payable by cash, check or credit card.



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