

August in the Garden

Planning

Start buying perennials from local nurseries for late summer planting.

Plant fall blooming crocus.

Planting

Start fall and winter vegetables.

When the temperatures begin to drop, you can divide your perennials. Be sure to water the newly planted divisions to give them a good head start.

Fertilizing and Watering

Add topsoil or organic mulch to dry, bare soil.

Adjust watering as plants are starting to go dormant.

Fertilize strawberry plants.

Woody perennials, shrubs and trees start to harden off for the winter. Continue watering woody perennials.

Stop fertilizing roses and other woody plants by the 10th of the month.

Critters

Yellowjackets get really active this month.

Remember they are beneficial for your yard garden so if they aren't bothering you, don't harm them.

Use yellowjacket traps if a nest is located in an area of human activity such as playgrounds, patios or walkways.

August is a great time to plant
crocus - early to bed and
early to rise!

Garden and Plant Maintenance

Prune hybrid roses in late August to promote fall blossoms.

After harvesting raspberry bushes, cut dry canes to the ground—leave new green canes to set fruit for next year.

Lightly shear lavender bushes after blooming.

Remove runners from strawberries.

Keep weeding, pinch leggy plants, train and prune vines as needed.

You can start digging potatoes once the tops start to yellow. Avoid watering the plants for the rest of the season. Once dug, let them sit out in the open so that their skins can toughen up for storage. Gently wash the dirt off.

Onions are ready to harvest when the main stem begins to get weak and fall.

Harvest vegetables as they ripen. Overripe vegetables will prevent more fruit from developing.

Late August is an excellent time to start lifting and separating spring flowering bulbs (tulips, daffodils, etc.)

Now is the time to harvest beans, cucumbers, corn, tomatoes, carrots and summer squash.