

JANUARY 2024

ANNUAL GARDENING CALENDAR

PREPARED FOR SHADOW CREEK

BY DR. ROBERT E. MOON



DR. R.E. MOON +
ASSOCIATES

est. 1982

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1 NEW YEARS DAY Set irrigation controller to the off position unless there is a drought.	2 Don't forget to fertilize house plants with a liquid plant food once every six weeks during the winter. Be sure to get water drainage from the bottom of the container.	3 Plan flowering sequence for perennial flowers. Make a note of varieties of each crop to be grown. Daffodils, perennial alyssum, iris, phlox, day lilies, shasta daisies, blackfoot daisies, skullcap, rudebeckia, echinacea, coreopsis, cosmos, salvia greggii, cleome, and peonies are all good for this area.	4	5 Make cuttings from geraniums, coleus, lantana, copper leaf, or other soft wood plants for later transfer into the garden.	6 Prepare planting beds for annuals and vegetable crops. Incorporate organic material such as peat moss, pine bark, compost, or composted cow manure materials to improve soil.
7 Gather leaves for mulching and composting from area lawns. Bulbs must be watered if there has been no rain.	8 Clean tools and equipment and store in a dry place after each usage. Use oil on the metal and linseed oil on the wood handles. Maintain temperatures in greenhouses to prevent a sudden drop in temperature which may be damaging to tropical plants.	9	10 Begin to "harden" cabbage or broccoli plants in cold frames by less watering, exposure to cold, and low fertility.	11 Spray fruit and pecan trees with Neem Oil and Cueva. The temperature needs to be above freezing when spraying. This is good for overwintering insect and disease control.	12 Prepare sketches of your garden and flower beds. Determine crops and plants to be grown and spacing. Till soil during cold afternoons to control overwintering insects.	13 Plant bare-root roses, pecans, grapes, fruit trees, blackberries, and landscape plants one inch above the existing soil line. Water plants directly after planting and use root stimulator.
14 It is a good idea to cut back all trees by 1/3 to balance top growth with the roots.	15 Inspect house plants carefully for mealy bugs and spider mites and control them if found.	16 Water trees, shrubs, and lawns during dry periods. Soak the soil to a depth of six inches every 7-10 days this time of year.	17 Spray Neem Oil and Cueva to control overwintering insects and diseases on fruit, nut, and landscape trees when the temperatures will be above 40°F for 12 hours if you have not already done so.	18	19 Start seed of carnations, petunias, marigolds, geraniums, alyssum, and flowering purslane in small pots indoors for early spring color.	20 Fertilize trees, shrubs, fruit trees, ground covers, and vines. Surface apply and water in. Do this one time between now and the end of February.
21	22 Check narrow-leaf evergreen plants for bagworm pouches. The adult female bagworms lay the eggs in the pouch where they overwinter. Remove these pouches.	23 Evergreen and deciduous shrubs and small trees set out this month will establish good roots before the growing season begins. Check the approved list of plants.	24 Begin seeding peppers and tomatoes in cold frames for early transplants. Also sow annual and perennial flower seeds in cold frames. Remove spent flowers on pansies to prolong the blooming season. Continue to fertilize at six week intervals and water regularly.	25	26 Collect hardwood cuttings to be used for budding and grafting pecan trees. Take dormant cuttings on your favorite crape myrtles and other shrubs this month.	27 Till your garden soil. Add 20 lbs. of a complete granular fertilizer such as 10-20-10 or 10-10-10 per 1,000 sq. feet. Also add sulfur, organic matter, and granular garden gypsum to loosen soil...
28 ... Composed cow manure can be substituted for inorganic fertilizer.	29 Take a soil sample and send it to ServiTech, Inc. Check their website for instructions and cost.	30	31	1	2	3

FEBRUARY 2024

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28	29	30	31	1 Set irrigation controller to run one time every two weeks. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Plant English peas, onions, Irish potatoes, and spinach in the vegetable garden. Now is also a good time to add landscape plants. Never till or plant in wet soil.	3 Prune fruit trees, grape vines, nut trees, landscape trees, evergreens, and summer flowering shrubs. Remember that fruit trees produce fruit on one year-old wood.
4	5 Don't forget to apply Neem Oil to fruit and pecan trees. Do not apply Neem Oil if day temperature is at or below freezing.	6 Feed pansies and other winter annuals with a complete fertilizer or an organic fertilizer.	7 Plant asparagus, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard, collard (Kale), kohlrabi, lettuce, onion plants, parsley, radishes, and turnips.	8	9 Mulch around all plants and tree root balls with a dyed brown, double-ground mulch.	10 This is still a good time for planting roses, pecans, grapes, fruit trees, blackberries, and landscape plants. Plants will thrive if you prepare a wide planting hole and plant so the top of the root ball is 1-2 in...
11 ... higher than the existing soil line. Soils on site will need an addition of organic matter mixed with existing soil as a back-fill around the roots.	12 Water trees, shrubs, vegetables, annual flowers, and lawns during dry periods. Seed Butterfly/Hummingbird wildflowers in your garden.	13 Buy something for your special someone! Flowering plants are especially nice.	14 VALENTINE'S DAY	15 Apply pre-emergent weed control to lawns, ground cover, and shrub beds for warm season weed control. Read and follow label instructions carefully. Pre-emergent weed control can be applied as late as the third week in March, but remember, the closer you apply to February 15th, the better your weed control.	16 Scatter seeds of candy tuft, cornflower, larkspur, and poppy on prepared flower beds. Make first planting of gladiolus bulbs.	17 Re-plant lettuce and radishes weekly until the third week in April.
18 AVERAGE FROST FREE Prune all roses except for climbing roses.	19 Prepare the lawn mower for its spring and summer workout. Disconnect the spark plug before working on the mower.	20 Fertilize all trees, shrubs, ground covers, and vines if this was not done in January.	21 Aphids begin to show up on all vegetable plants. Control if found with Neem Oil.	22 Seed coleus, marigolds, petunias, flowering purslane, and portulaca in seed flats. Treat seeds to prevent damping off disease with Neem Oil and Cueva.	23	24 Divide and re-plant daisies.
25 If you use a broadleaf weed killer on your turf, be careful, because this can be very damaging to trees and shrubs if not applied as per instructions.	26 Remove old seed clusters from crape myrtle plants. Also remove suckers off of trunks. Do not commit crape murder by cutting back all branches!	27 Cultivate around shrubs, trees, annual flowers, and vegetables as needed. Add granular gypsum, sulfur, and Ironite around these plants to improve vigor.	28 Select perennial and ornamental grasses from the approved plant list.	29	1	2

MARCH 2024

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25	26	27	28	29	1 Set irrigation controller to run one time every 7-10 days. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Allow foliage to remain on spring flowering bulbs until it dies naturally or you will have few or no flowers next spring.
3 Begin to "harden tomatoes, peppers, and other vegetables in cold frames by less watering and exposure to cold. Be careful not to let plants freeze. Monitor watering closely to decrease damping off.	4	5 A hummingbird flower mix can be purchased from Wildseed Farms to encourage hummingbirds and butterflies throughout the summer. Plant in full sun areas.	6 Spray live oaks for forest tent caterpillars as leaves begin spring flush. This spray will also reduce gall formation and aphid leaf curl.	7 Prune hybrid tea and floribunda roses if you have not yet done so. Do not prune climbing roses.	8 Spray pear trees for the control of fire blight with Neem Oil and Cueva. Apply three applications at five-day intervals beginning when 10% of the blossoms are open.	9
10 Prune back overgrown ground cover beds of English ivy, jasmine, colorata euonymus, liriope, ophiopogon, and vinca to encourage new, compact growth. A lawn mower set on its highest setting works if beds are level and rock free. Renovate, fertilize, and control insects in strawberries.	11	12 Seed eggplants for transplants in April. Seed Firecracker 234 wildflower blend.	13 Enjoy your garden! Summer is on the way.	14 Fertilize your lawn. Follow label instructions for application rates. This first application should be made before April 15. Water the lawn after fertilization.	15 Spray peach and plum trees for insect and disease control when 75% of the blossoms are open and on a continued schedule every 10-14 days until five applications are made. Treat with Neem Oil and Cueva.	16
17 Start hanging baskets. They will need protection occasionally from the cold, but a week or two head start will give them a chance to become established before hot weather.	18	19 Set out Alyssum, daisies, dianthus, lobelia, phlox, verbena, carefree geraniums, asters, petunias, impatiens, and chrysanthemum plants.	20 Remove winter-damaged tips from all plants.	21 Plant snap beans, lima beans, lettuce, cucumbers, squash, sweet corn, mustard, and tomatoes (seeds and transplants). Thin flower and vegetable plants as needed.	22	23 Set out ageratum, balsam, celosia, coleus, dahlias, impatiens, marigolds, portulaca, salvia, and zinnia plants. Mulches such as compost or dyed-brown, double-ground mulch can be...
24 ... spread around the plants to prevent weed seed germination and maximize water utilization.	25	26 Spray broadleaf evergreens for scale; Insect infestation control with Neem Oil.	27 Re-pot overgrown houseplants. Use a loose potting soil and a container which has a hole in the bottom for drainage.	28 Control insects, weeds, and disease in the garden as needed.	29 Aerate, de-thatch, or Verticut your lawn this month. This is absolutely necessary for turf where thatch has accumulated to where water and nutrients cannot penetrate.	30 / 31 For full sun bed areas, plant a cut flower seed mix from Wildseed Farms and enjoy beautiful cut flowers all summer.

APRIL 2024

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	1 EASTER Set irrigation controller to run one time every 7-10 days. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Seed Autumn Beauty sunflower mix, zinnias, cosmos, coreopsis, mallow, coneflower, verbena, Mexican hat, Laura Bush petunias, black-eyed Susan, and gaillardia.	3 Spray fruit trees again for insect and disease control. Now is also a good time to spray pecans for gall control. Spray with Neem Oil and Cueva.	4 Plant snap beans, lima beans, eggplants, lettuce, cucumbers, squash, sweet corn, cantaloupes, mustard, tomatoes (transplants), pumpkins, and watermelons. Check leaf crops for aphids and loopers and control. Spray as needed with Neem Oil.	5	6 Treat all turf and beds for fire ant control. Remove thatch from your lawn and treat broadleaf weeds in the turf. Now is also a good time to aerate your turf.
7 Check established lawns for brown patch and control. Spray fruit trees again to prevent insects and disease. Select plants and ornamental grasses from the approved plant list. Treat your active fire ants. Neem Oil is a good control for insects and diseases.	8	9 Start planting raised strawberry beds. Chandler, Douglas, and Sequoia are excellent varieties.	10	11 Sow seeds of tender annuals such as oxalis, balsams, celosia, candle trees, cockscomb, cosmos, marigolds, morning glories, periwinkle, and zinnias. Bed copper plants, ageratum, and ornamental amaranthus and other annual plants that you have not yet planted.	12	13 Turn your compost pile and add additional organic matter and a small amount of nitrogen fertilizer to enhance decomposition.
14 Thin newly established vegetable plants as needed. Control cut worms and treat tomatoes for disease control with Neem Oil. Seed the wildflower and cut flower mix in your garden.	15	16 Watch for powdery mildew on roses, vegetables, and ornamental plants and control it. Black spot and thrips on roses need to be controlled with Neem Oil.	17 Plant Bermuda grass seed and sod or sprigs of St. Augustine or hybrid Bermuda sod. Prepare seed bed before planting. Use 1-2 lbs. of seed per 1,000 sq. ft. Select good quality turf.	18 Spray apples and pears with Neem Oil every 14 days to control insects and diseases.	19 Treat pecan rosette, pecan scab, and foliage feeding insects with Neem Oil.	20 Make second plantings of sweet corn and green beans. Transplant eggplants.
21 Water strawberries after each harvest, but do not overwater.	22 Plant a tree. Also plant okra, southern peas, hot peppers (plants), sweet peppers (plants), sweet potatoes, and pumpkins. Mulch and cage tomatoes to prevent rot.	23 Many house plants can be moved outdoors for their summer vacation. Continue spraying roses with Neem Oil every 10 days for insect and disease control.	24 Spray grapevines at 14-day intervals with Neem Oil to control insects and diseases.	25 Check squash plants for vine borers and control. Begin harvesting cool-season vegetables. Do not fertilize new bedding plants until they show some growth.	26 Fertilize your lawns again if you have not in the last 6 weeks. Amaryllis, cannas, dahlias, elephant ears, tuberose, gladiolus, and caladiums can now be planted.	27 Thin peaches to 4-6 in. apart for highest fruit quality. Spray fruit trees again with Neem Oil for insect and disease control.
28 It is not too late to plant any balled and burlapped or container-grown plants. Don't let the plants dry out before planting. Use a starter solution to stimulate root growth. Get rid of weeds. They rob nourishment from wanted plants. Mulch top of root balls with dyed-brown, double ground much or compost.	29	30	1	2	3	4

MAY 2024

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28	29	30	1 Set irrigation controller to run one time every 7-10 days. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Blackberry production is declining. Remove at ground level the old canes that had fruit this season and "tip back" new canes to encourage branching.	3 Control crabgrass and dallisgrass in Bermuda grass lawns. Follow label instructions closely. Also control nutsedge in the lawn. Use a pre-emergent weed control again to prevent late weed germination. Use a regular mowing, watering, and fertilizing schedule to help avoid a weed issue.	4
5 Continue to spray peach and plum trees to control insects and diseases. Do this every 14 days until five treatments have occurred. This is the fourth application listed in this calendar. Also continue to spray roses. Apply Neem Oil and Cueva for these treatments.	6	7 Control powdery mildew on vegetables and ornamental plants as needed with Neem Oil. Watch vegetables for spider mites and, if present, control with Neem Oil.	8 Prune your spring flowering shrubs after blooming: Climbing roses, forsythia, quince, and Indian hawthorn. Shape azaleas and camellias.	9 Watch for bagworms on conifers; thrips, aphids, spider mites, and white flies on everything. Treat with Neem Oil when present.	10 Plant ornamental grasses from the approved plant list for a great summer and fall display.	11 Locate a source of biological predators to be used in the garden (such as ladybugs and predator mites).
12 Dig anemone bulbs and store in a cool, airy place for replanting in December.	13 Check squash plants for the presence of vine borers and control if needed. Also check for squash bugs and control if needed with Neem Oil.	14 Apply pre-emergent weed control to turf, shrubs, and ground cover beds for warm season weed control. Read and follow label instructions carefully.	15 Hanging baskets and house plants need wind protection; Also water and fertilize as needed.	16 Balled and burlapped and container-grown plants can still be planted.	17 Spray roses every 7-10 days with the recommended fungicide for black spot. Control when present with Neem Oil and Cueva.	18 Check vegetables, annual flowers, and ornamentals for spider mites. Control with Neem Oil.
19 Be ready to spray pecan nut casebearer and scab with Neem Oil and Cueva when emergence is announced in your paper. This varies from one year to the next year, but usually falls on these dates. Spray once initially, then again seven days later.	20	21 Spray fruit trees again for insect and disease control. Control with Neem Oil and Cueva.	22 Watch broadleaf evergreen shrubs and crepe myrtles for scale infestation and control with Neem Oil.	23 Spot-treat fire ants. Monitor crape myrtle for scale, aphids, and powdery mildew. Treat with Neem Oil.	24 Replenish mulch around vegetables, trees, and shrubs to hold moisture around the plants. Use a dyed-brown, double-ground hardwood mulch or compost.	25 The mowing height of common Bermuda grass is 1 ½ to 2 ½ in, hybrid Bermuda grass is 1 in, and Buffalo grass is 2 ½ -4 in. Mowing should be done when there is no more than 1/3 of the growth...
26 ... to cut off. Treat shrub and ground cover beds with a pre-emergent to prevent summer weeds such as crabgrass if not applied earlier this month.	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28 Good drought-resistant plants for annual color beds are potato vine, angelonia, purple fountain grass, periwinkle, scaevola, and rose moss.	29 Treat all newly planted trees for insects with a systemic insect control such as Merit or Neem Oil.	30	31	1

JUNE 2024

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26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Set irrigation controller to run one or two times per week. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.
2 Begin to harvest onions, new Irish potatoes, snap beans, cucumbers, squash, radishes, lettuce, blackberries, and peaches.	3 Do not remove the foliage of spring flowering bulbs until the foliage dies.	4 Water when needed to prevent plant stress. Soak the soil to a depth of 4-6 inches. It is better to water in the early morning hours.	5 Spot treat grasses in unwanted areas with Roundup.	6 Treat active fire ant mounds.	7 Check plants for mildew on leaves and treat as needed with Neem Oil or Cueva.	8 Fertilize and pinch back chrysanthemums to encourage branching. Remove gladiola bulbs after the leaves turn brown and store them in a dry place.
9 Fertilize your lawn. Apply a pre-emergent weed control at one-half the recommended rate if not applied in May. Apply Neem Oil for brown spot and chinch bug control as needed.	10	11 Turn your compost pile and moisten. Continue to add organic matter and nitrogen fertilizer to enhance decomposition.	12 Pick and destroy bagworms from trees and junipers. Or you can treat with Neem Oil for control.	13 Fertilize annual flowers and vegetables with a balanced fertilizer to ensure continued vigor.	14 Control webworms on trees. Watch for spider mites on tomatoes and control them as needed with Neem Oil.	15 Spray Neem Oil on tree trunks to prevent borer damage. Learn to recognize patterned-hole damage in trees caused by sapsucker woodpeckers.
16 As soon as perennials have finished blooming, cut back spent flowers to encourage new blooms. Prune spent flowers from roses and fertilize. Fertilize chrysanthemums and pinch terminal buds for bushy plants and more blooms.	17	18 Repair damaged trees when needed rather than waiting for the dormant season.	19 JUNETEENTH Harvest vegetables as they are ready.	20 Remember the first season for newly planted shrubs, perennials, and trees is critical - so keep them watered.	21 Plant spider lily bulbs. Buy large-sized bulbs for first-year blooms.	22 Treat plants with iron chlorosis with Ironite.
23 Continue to plant new lawn grasses. Warm-season grasses prefer warm days for growth. Apply ample water for germination and growth. Fertilize once the grass is off to a good growing start; do not over-fertilize. Check turf for grubworm infestation. Grubworms can be treated with a Neem Oil drench.	24	25 Continue the preventative spray program on roses for black spot, mildew, and thrip control with Neem Oil and Cueva.	26	27 Fertilize your lawns again if you have not in the last six weeks.	28 When controlling insects and mites, don't forget to check out biological predators like ladybugs and predator mites.	29 / 30

JULY 2024

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30	1 Set irrigation controller to run two times per week. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Gladiolas are planted this month for the last time this year. Fertilize and water as needed.	3 Plant and reset iris. Harvest vegetables as needed.	4 INDEPENDENCE DAY Fertilize perennials to encourage vigor next year.	5 Check plants for spider mites and thrips and control if needed with Neem Oil.	6 Control insects with ladybugs and predator mites. Perennials will bloom again if the spent bloom stalks are removed.
7 For the third and last time, spray pecans for case bearer and scab with Neem Oil and Cueva.	8	9 Turn compost and moisten. Add grass clippings after mowing.	10 Water lawns, vegetables, annuals, trees, and shrubs when needed, giving a thorough soaking rather than frequent, light sprinklings. Keep those weeds pulled which are robbing your plants of needed moisture. Keep plants mulched with compost or a dyed-brown, double-ground hardwood mulch.	11	12 Treat ornamental tree trunks for borer control with Neem Oil or apply a systemic insect control such as Merit to the soil.	13 Do not neglect newly planted landscape materials. Dry conditions can be deadly to poorly developed root systems. Supply extra water by hand watering if needed.
14 Check turf, perennial grasses, and flowers for grub worms, and treat when present with Neem Oil.	15	16 Check the condition of mulch materials. Replace or add where needed to conserve water and prevent weeds.	17 Monitor all plants for scale and aphids. Treat as needed with Neem Oil.	18 Soak hanging baskets in a tub of water every few days in addition to regular daily watering. This is also a good time to fertilize baskets with Miracle-Gro.	19 Fertilize all your shrubs, perennials, and ground cover.	20 Damaged wood or limbs should be removed from trees and shrubs right now. Do not wait until winter.
21 Protect plants moved outdoors from the hot, dry weather. Check watering daily.	22 Keep an eye out for army worms and grubs in your lawn. Check Bermuda grass for mite damage. Control with Neem Oil if needed.	23 Plant hot-weather annual seeds such as zinnias, marigolds, cora vinca, portulaca, angelonia, potato vine, purple fountain grass, and scaevola.	24 Grubworm controls can be applied from the last week in July to the 2nd week in Sept. Treatment is necessary when you find four grub worms per sq. ft. Treat with Neem Oil.	25 Powdery mildew and aphids are usually prevalent in this season. Check plants closely before buildup occurs. Treat with Neem Oil.	26 Be on the lookout for sod webworms in lawns. This devastating pest has to be controlled when it first appears. Treat with Neem Oil.	27 Treat crape myrtles for aphids and scale insects. Plants will be wet if these insects are present. Treat with Neem Oil.
28 Other insects to watch for include lace bugs, scale, spider mites, and thrips on almost everything else. Treat with Neem Oil.	29 Never apply fertilizer to a dry plant. Water one day and feed the next day, then water well. This does not hold true for grass.	30	31	1	2	3

AUGUST 2024

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28	29	30	31	1 Set irrigation controller to run one to two times per week. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Plant snap pole beans, lima pole beans, cabbage, broccoli, eggplant, Swiss chard, cantaloupe, mustard, okra, parsley, peppers, Irish potatoes, spinach, squash, tomatoes, and watermelon.	3
4 Remove spent flowers from crape myrtles so new ones will appear. Watch for powdery mildew, aphids, and scale on crape myrtles and control as needed with Neem Oil.	5	6 Make cuttings on plumbago, croton, begonias, coleus, flowering purslane, potato vine, and other foliage plants for winter pots and next year's garden.	7 Check perennials regularly for foliage diseases and insects. Control with Neem Oil and Cueva as needed.	8 Sow seeds of cornflowers, flowering purslane, petunia, larkspur, snapdragon, baby's breath, bells of Ireland, candy tuft, clarkia, cleome, cockscomb, cosmos, gaillardia, and stocks.	9	10 Plant snap pole beans, lima pole beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard, corn, cucumber, eggplants, lettuce, mustard...
11 ... okra, parsley, English peas, southern peas, peppers, Irish potatoes, pumpkins, spinach, squash, and turnips.	12	13	14 Treat plants for mites, lace bugs, and thrips when present with Neem Oil.	15	16 If you have not treated for grub worm control, check to see if it is needed and control with Neem Oil. Make another application of lawn fertilizer and water thoroughly.	17
18 Control pecan aphids, shuck worms, webworms, and foliage diseases with Neem Oil and Cueva.	19 Add compost or dyed-brown, double-ground hardwood mulch to beds to conserve water.	20 This is a good time to build a compost bin. Keep compost wet but not soggy.	21 Be sure to water to prevent young vegetable plants from wilting and dying.	22 Control weeds in gardens and flower beds.	23 Stop pinching chrysanthemums and poinsettias after this date.	24 Shade newly emerged vegetable plants from the hot afternoon sun.
25 Plant snap bush beans, lima bush beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, collards, lettuce, mustard, onion seed, parsley, and spinach.	26	27 Prepare strawberry planting beds for planting.	28 Start seeding of pansies and violas for fall planting.	29 Sow bluebonnet seeds and other wildflower seeds for next spring/summer flowering. Purchase seeds from Wildseed Farms.	30 Monitor watering closely on all plants.	31 Watch for powdery mildew on plants and control as needed with Neem Oil.

SEPTEMBER 2024

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<p>1</p> <p>Set irrigation controller to run one time per week.</p> <p>If it is raining, turn controller to off position.</p>	<p>2 LABOR DAY</p> <p>Plant or reset iris, daylilies, daisies, cannas, and ground cover plants.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Sow fescue grass seeds in heavily shaded areas where grass has died during the summer months from lack of sunlight and on the heavily shaded areas on the side of your house. This could be the answer to those bare, low-light areas.</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Sow seeds in your flower beds of alyssum, calendula, dianthus, pansies, violas, and poppies.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Plant snap beans, lima bush beans, beets, cabbage, collards, onion seeds, parsley, radishes, spinach, and turnips. Also seed poppies in your garden.</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>This is the latest period for planting Bermuda grass seed to assure establishment before cool weather. Seed and sod after September may freeze during the winter months. Keep seeded sod moist for winter protection.</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Stop feeding trees and shrubs to allow hardening before frost.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Do not prune or cut back spring flowering trees and shrubs as you will be removing potential spring flowers.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Disbud chrysanthemums if larger blooms are desired. Disbudding does not mean take off all the buds.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Apply a pre-emergent weed control to all lawn, ground cover, and shrub beds for cool-season weed control. Pre-emergent weed killers can be applied as late as the third week in October. This will help prevent those spring weeds.</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Begin to prepare house plants for overwintering indoors. Re-pot overgrown plants and feed established pots with a complete, liquid houseplant fertilizer.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Fertilize lawns and follow label application rates. Apply in two directions.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Get out and evaluate your landscape for new plantings during the fall, winter, and spring.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Take cuttings from foliage plants that have been outdoors.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Prepare spring flowering bulb beds for later planting this fall. Seed the Texas/Oklahoma wildflower mix that can be purchased through Wildseed Farms.</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>Watch for the third generation of mesquite webworms attacking mesquite trees and control as needed with Neem Oil.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Continue the disease spray schedule on roses as black spot and mildew can be extremely damaging in September and October. Treat with Neem Oil and Cueva.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Plant bluebonnet seeds in your flower beds. Purchase from Wildseed Farms.</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Be first in line to select and purchase spring flowering bulbs as soon as they are available. Store bulbs in the refrigerator until the November and December planting times. Seed crimson clover as a cover crop in your garden.</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Keep a close watch for whitefly infestations on all plants and control as needed with Neem Oil.</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>

OCTOBER 2024

ANNUAL GARDENING CALENDAR

PREPARED FOR SHADOW CREEK

BY DR. ROBERT E. MOON



DR. R.E. MOON +
ASSOCIATES

est. 1982

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	1 Set irrigation controller to run one time every 7-10 days If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Place potted poinsettias in darkness from 6 PM to 8 AM to have red color by Christmas.	3	4 Check out biological predators for insect and mite control. Ladybugs and predator mites will work for you.	5
6 Keep weeds out of fall vegetable gardens and water regularly.	7 Continue to divide and transplant popular perennials such as daylilies, liriopse, ajuga, iris, and others.	8 Plant garlic, parsley, radishes, spinach, and turnips.	9 Harvest pumpkins and squash and cure for several weeks. Store in a cool, dry place.	10 Plant transplants of pansies, violas, sedum, alyssum, kale, parsley, and collards.	11 Plan landscaping and plant new trees and shrubs where needed. Now is a good time for planting. Trees can be established in cooler weather.	12 Seed Rebel fescue grass seed in shaded areas around home. Seed at the rate of 1 lb. per 1,000 square feet. Seed can be purchased at Lowe's.
13	14 Clean all wood from around your house to avoid termites.	15 Control insects and diseases on fall garden crops by spraying with Neem Oil and Cueva as needed. Control loopers with Neem Oil.	16	17 Mulch strawberry beds and vegetable beds to protect against frost.	18 Make cuttings on tender plants before frost.	19 Collect dried plant material for fall flower arrangements.
20 Dig and store caladium bulbs in a dark, dry area in peat moss or rice hulls after they dry.	21 Now is an excellent time to plant trees and shrubs.	22 Control scale insects on ornamental plants with Neem Oil.	23 Container-grown nursery stock can still be planted, so keep an eye out for those year-end specials.	24 Air layer overgrown leggy houseplants. Check online for examples.	25 Control nematodes in fallow vegetable gardens with Neem Oil. Wait 3 weeks before planting.	26 Plant daffodils, narcissi, crocus, and Dutch iris.
27 Stop shearing shrubs to prevent freeze damage.	28 Don't forget to water plants in the winter when temperatures are above freezing.	29 Start to move houseplants indoors that have been outside for the summer.	30	31 HALLOWEEN	1	2

NOVEMBER 2024

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	31	1 TEXAS ARBOR DAY Set irrigation controller to run one time every two weeks. If it is raining, turn controller to off position.	2 Plant radishes and spinach. Continue to harvest vegetables.
3 Plant spring flowering bulbs such as daffodils, Dutch iris, and anemones. Chill tulips and hyacinths 4-6 weeks before planting.	4	5 Remove debris from flower beds and gardens to control diseases and insects. It is also a good time to spray fruit trees to prevent fungus and bacterial diseases. Treat with Neem Oil and Cueva.	6 Prepare and plant pansy and viola beds for winter and early spring color.	7 Keep accent urns and jars drained so water will not freeze in them and cause breakage. Continue to plant pansies, snap dragons, pinks, and flowering cabbage. Establish a compost pile to accommodate falling leaves. Root prune wisteria which failed to flower. Watch for aphids as they can build up rapidly on winter annuals.	8	9 Go out and enjoy the brilliant fall colors in woody lanes!
10 Spray stone fruit trees for disease control with Neem Oil.	11	12 Make sure heating systems are functioning properly in your greenhouse. Night temperature needs to be 65°F.	13	14 Fertilize all perennial beds by putting fertilizer between the plants. Keep away from stems.	15	16 Store pecans at 36-40°F or place in a deep freeze. This will keep them fresh. Keep stored nuts away from onions.
17 Wait to cut back ornamental grasses until spring.	18 Thin prune evergreen trees to prevent ice damage.	19 Continue to supply needed supplemental moisture for newly planted landscape materials.	20 Spade all empty beds and allow them to lie fallow. This is a good time to improve edging materials.	21 This is an excellent time for planting container-grown ground covers, shrubs, and trees.	22 If you like birds in your winter landscape, provide some feeding stations to attract them.	23
24 Be careful not to overwater houseplants. Water thoroughly when needed and let the soil dry between watering. Root rot can be a problem during the winter months.	25	26	27 Treat vegetable garden soil with Neem Oil for nematode control.	28 THANKSGIVING DAY Clean and oil garden tools; use linseed oil on the handles and clean lawn equipment.	29 If you need to add landscape to your home, now is an excellent time to plant trees and shrubs.	30

DECEMBER 2024

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Set irrigation controller to the off position.	2 Select your cut Christmas tree early. Re-cut the end and put it in water. Decorate the tree after it has soaked for a few days.	3 Build or repair cold frames and hotbeds.	4 If your houseplants are looking tall and spindly, they need more light.	5 If you have not pruned live oaks, do so now to prevent ice damage.	6 Do not allow evergreen plants in the landscape to dry out. Water when the soil is dry.	7
8 AVERAGE FIRST FROST Select horticultural gifts for gardening friends and relatives. Gift certificates are always good.	9 Plan to plant a tree during the Christmas season.	10 Shape hollies and use the pruning for Christmas color.	11 Remove and destroy bagworm pouches on junipers. Eggs overwinter in these bags.	12 Water cut Christmas trees daily with warm water.	13 For a unique idea this year, select a living Christmas tree for your home. Afghan Pine, Japanese Black Pine, Austrian Pine, Atlas Cedar and Deodar cedars are excellent.	14
15 Be careful not to overwater Christmas plants and keep gift plants away from cold drafts.	16	17 Give a Christmas plant, such as a poinsettia, to your best friend. By the way, they are absolutely NOT poisonous to most people.	18 Remove grasses from trunks of fruit trees and grapes to prevent damage from mice and other rodents.	19	20 Avoid using high-nitrogen fertilizers on plants at this time. Use only high-phosphorus fertilizers.	21
22 Plant tulips and hyacinths in prepared beds.	23 Control scale insects on plants with Neem Oil.	24 If you are an organic gardener, add composted cow manure to the garden now.	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 Fertilize violas, pansies, spring flowering perennials, and annuals.	27 Select adapted varieties of fruit and landscape trees which will do well in this climate as per the approved plant list.	28 Prepare hot frames and cold frames for seeding vegetable and flowering transplants.
29 Have a soil sample tested to determine proper soil amendments.	30	31	1	2	3	4