

JANUARY 2026

ANNUAL GARDENING CALENDAR

PREPARED FOR SHADOW CREEK RANCH

BY DR. ROBERT E. MOON



DR. R.E. MOON +
ASSOCIATES

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	31	01 NEW YEARS DAY Turn irrigation controller OFF.	02 Fertilize houseplants with liquid plant food every six weeks in winter. Ensure containers drain well.	03 Plan the flowering sequence for perennials and note varieties to grow. Good options for this area include daffodils, perennial alyssum, iris, phlox, daylilies, Shasta daisies...
04 ... blackfoot daisies, skullcap, rudbeckia, echinacea, coreopsis, cosmos, salvia greggii, cleome, and peonies.	05 Take cuttings from geraniums, coleus, lantana, copperleaf, or other softwood plants for later transplanting.	06 Prepare planting beds for annuals and vegetables. Mix in organic material such as peat moss, pine bark, compost, or composted cow manure to improve soil.	07 Gather leaves from lawns for mulching or composting. Water bulbs if there hasn't been any rain.	08 Clean tools and equipment after each use and store in a dry place. Oil metal parts and use linseed oil on wooden handles. Maintain greenhouse temperatures to avoid sudden drops that could harm tropical plants.	09	10 Begin hardening cabbage and broccoli in cold frames by reducing watering, exposing them to cooler temperatures, and limiting fertility.
11 Spray fruit and pecan trees with Neem Oil and Cueva when temperatures are above freezing. This helps control overwintering insects and diseases.	12 Sketch your garden and flower beds. Decide which crops and plants to grow and their spacing. Till soil on cold afternoons to help control overwintering insects.	13 Plant bare-root roses, pecans, grapes, fruit trees, blackberries, and landscape plants about 1 inch above the soil line. Water immediately after planting and use a root stimulator.	14 Prune trees by about one-third to balance top growth with the roots.	15 Check houseplants for mealybugs and spider mites, and treat if any are found.	16 Water trees, shrubs, and lawns during dry periods. Soak soil to a depth of 6 inches every 7-10 days.	17 Spray fruit, nut, and landscape trees with Neem Oil and Cueva to control overwintering insects and diseases when temperatures stay above 40°F for 12 hours (if not done already).
18	19 Start seeds of carnations, petunias, marigolds, geraniums, alyssum, and flowering purslane in small indoor pots for early spring color.	20 Fertilize trees, shrubs, fruit trees, ground covers, and vines. Apply to the soil surface and water in. Do this once between now and the end of February.	21	22 Check narrowleaf evergreens for bagworm pouches. Adult females lay eggs in these pouches, where they overwinter. Remove any pouches you find.	23 Plant evergreen and deciduous shrubs and small trees this month to help them establish strong roots before the growing season. Check the approved plant list for recommendations.	24 Start seeds of peppers and tomatoes in cold frames for early transplants. Sow annual and perennial flower seeds in cold frames as well...
25 ... Remove spent pansy flowers to extend blooming. Continue fertilizing every six weeks and water regularly.	26 Collect hardwood cuttings for budding and grafting pecan trees. Take dormant cuttings from crape myrtles and other shrubs this month.	27 Till garden soil. Add 20 lbs. of a complete granular fertilizer (10-20-10 or 10-10-10) per 1,000 sq. ft. Also incorporate sulfur, organic matter, and granular garden gypsum to loosen soil. Composted cow manure can be used instead of inorganic fertilizer.	28	29 Take a soil sample and send it to ServiTech, Inc. Visit their website for instructions and pricing.	30	31

FEBRUARY 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01 Set irrigation controller to run once every 2 weeks. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 Plant English peas, onions, Irish potatoes, and spinach in the vegetable garden. This is also a good time to add landscape plants. Avoid tilling or planting in wet soil.	03 Prune fruit trees, grapevines, nut trees, landscape trees, evergreens, and summer-flowering shrubs. Keep in mind that fruit trees bear on one-year-old wood.	04	05 Apply Neem Oil to fruit and pecan trees, but only when daytime temperatures are above freezing.	06 Fertilize pansies and other winter annuals with a complete or organic fertilizer.	07 Plant asparagus, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard, collards, kohlrabi, lettuce, onion plants, parsley, radishes, and turnips.
08	09 Mulch around plants and tree root balls with double-ground brown mulch.	10 Continue planting roses, pecans, grapes, fruit trees, blackberries, and landscape plants. Dig wide planting holes and set root balls 1-2 inches above the soil line. Mix organic matter with existing soil for backfill around roots.	11	12 Water trees, shrubs, vegetables, annuals, and lawns during dry periods. Sow butterfly and hummingbird wildflowers in the garden.	13 Surprise your special someone with a gift—flowering plants make a great choice.	14 VALENTINE'S DAY Apply pre-emergent weed control to lawns, ground covers, and shrub beds for warm-season weed prevention. Follow label instructions carefully...
15 ... You can apply as late as the third week of March, but earlier applications—closer to February 15—offer better control.	16 Scatter seeds of candytuft, cornflower, larkspur, and poppy on prepared flower beds. Plant the first gladiolus bulbs.	17 Replant lettuce and radishes weekly through the third week of April.	18 AVERAGE FROST FREE Prune all roses except for climbing roses.	19 Prepare your lawn mower for spring and summer. Always disconnect the spark plug before performing maintenance.	20 Fertilize trees, shrubs, ground covers, and vines if you didn't do so in January.	21 Watch for aphids on vegetable plants and control with Neem Oil if found.
22 Sow coleus, marigolds, petunias, flowering purslane, and portulaca in seed flats. Treat seeds with Neem Oil and Cueva to prevent damping-off disease.	23	24 Divide and replant daisies.	25 If using a broadleaf weed killer on turf, follow instructions carefully, as it can harm trees and shrubs.	26 Remove old seed clusters and suckers from crape myrtles. Avoid cutting back all branches—don't commit 'crape murder.'	27 Cultivate around shrubs, trees, annuals, and vegetables as needed. Apply granular gypsum, sulfur, and Ironite to improve plant vigor.	28 Choose perennial and ornamental grasses from the approved plant list.
01	02	03	04	05	06	07

MARCH 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>01</p> <p>Set irrigation controller to run once every 7 - 10 days.</p> <p>If it is raining, turn controller OFF.</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p> <p>Leave foliage on spring-flowering bulbs until it dies naturally to ensure good blooms next year.</p>	<p>04</p> <p>Begin hardening tomatoes, peppers, and other vegetables in cold frames by reducing watering and exposing them to cooler temperatures. Avoid freezing and monitor moisture to prevent damping-off.</p>	<p>05</p>	<p>06</p> <p>Plant a hummingbird flower mix from Wildseed Farms in full sun to attract hummingbirds and butterflies all summer.</p>	<p>07</p> <p>Spray live oaks for forest tent caterpillars as leaves begin to emerge. This also helps reduce galls and aphid leaf curl.</p>
<p>08</p> <p>Prune hybrid tea and floribunda roses if not already done. Leave climbing roses unpruned.</p>	<p>09</p> <p>Spray pear trees with Neem Oil and Cueva to control fire blight. Apply three times at five-day intervals, starting when 10% of blossoms are open.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Prune overgrown ground cover beds of English ivy, jasmine, colorata euonymus, liriope, ophiopogon, and vinca to encourage compact new growth. A lawn mower on its highest setting works for level, rock-free beds. Renovate, fertilize, and manage insects in strawberries.</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Sow eggplants for April transplants. Also sow the Firecracker 234 wildflower blend.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Enjoy your garden—summer is on the way!</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Fertilize your lawn according to label instructions. Make the first application before April 15 and water afterward.</p>
<p>15</p> <p>Spray peach and plum trees with Neem Oil and Cueva for insect and disease control when 75% of blossoms are open. Repeat every 10-14 days for a total of five applications.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Start hanging baskets. Protect them from occasional cold, but an early start gives them time to establish before hot weather.</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Set out alyssum, daisies, dianthus, lobelia, phlox, verbena, carefree geraniums, asters, petunias, impatiens, and chrysanthemums.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Trim winter-damaged tips from all plants.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Plant snap beans, lima beans, lettuce, cucumbers, squash, sweet corn, mustard, and tomatoes (seeds and transplants). Thin flowers and vegetables as needed.</p>
<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Set out ageratum, balsam, celosia, coleus, dahlias, impatiens, marigolds, portulaca, salvia, and zinnia plants. Apply compost or double-ground brown mulch around plants to suppress weeds and retain moisture.</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Spray broadleaf evergreens with Neem Oil to control scale and other insect infestations.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Repot overgrown houseplants using loose potting soil and a container with a drainage hole.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Manage insects, weeds, and diseases in the garden as needed.</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Aerate, de-thatch, or verticut lawns this month. This is essential where thatch prevents water and nutrients from reaching the soil.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Plant a cut flower seed mix from Wildseed Farms in full-sun beds for beautiful summer blooms.</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>01</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p>	<p>04</p>

APRIL 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	01 Set irrigation controller to run once every 7 - 10 days. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 Sow Autumn Beauty sunflower mix, zinnias, cosmos, coreopsis, mallow, coneflower, verbena, Mexican hat, Laura Bush petunias, black-eyed Susans, and gaillardia.	03 Spray fruit trees for insect and disease control. Also, treat pecans for gall control using Neem Oil and Cueva.	04 Plant snap beans, lima beans, eggplants, lettuce, cucumbers, squash, sweet corn, cantaloupes, mustard, tomato transplants, pumpkins, and watermelons...
05 EASTER ... Check leaf crops for aphids and loopers and control with Neem Oil as needed.	06 Treat turf and beds for fire ants. Remove thatch from lawns and treat broadleaf weeds. This is also a good time to aerate turf.	07 Check established lawns for brown patch and treat if needed. Spray fruit trees for insects and diseases using Neem Oil. Choose plants and ornamental grasses from the approved list. Treat active fire ants.	08	09 Start planting raised strawberry beds. Chandler, Douglas, and Sequoia are excellent varieties.	10	11 Sow seeds of tender annuals such as oxalis, balsams, celosia, cockscomb, cosmos, marigolds, morning glories, periwinkle, and zinnias...
12 ... Plant copper plants, ageratum, ornamental amaranthus, and other annuals that haven't been set out yet.	13 Turn your compost pile and add organic matter plus a small amount of nitrogen fertilizer to speed decomposition.	14 Thin newly established vegetable plants as needed. Control cutworms and treat tomatoes for diseases with Neem Oil. Sow wildflower and cut flower mixes in the garden.	15	16 Watch for powdery mildew on roses, vegetables, and ornamentals, and control it. Treat black spot and thrips on roses with Neem Oil.	17 Plant Bermuda grass seed, or lay St. Augustine or hybrid Bermuda sod or sprigs. Prepare the seedbed beforehand, using 1-2 lbs. of seed per 1,000 sq. ft. Choose high-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, taking care not to overwater.	22 Plant a tree! Also plant okra, southern peas, hot and sweet pepper plants, sweet potatoes, and pumpkins. Mulch and cage tomatoes to prevent rot.	23 Move many houseplants outdoors for their summer 'vacation.' Continue spraying roses with Neem Oil every 10 days for insect and disease control.	24 Spray grapevines every 14 days with Neem Oil to control insects and diseases.	25 Check squash plants for vine borers and control as needed. Begin harvesting cool-season vegetables. Hold off on fertilizing new bedding plants until they show growth.
26 Fertilize lawns if you haven't in the last six weeks. Plant amaryllis, cannas, dahlias, elephant ears, tuberose, gladiolus, and caladiums.	27 Thin peaches to 4-6 inches apart for best fruit quality. Spray fruit trees with Neem Oil for insect and disease control.	28 It's not too late to plant balled-and-burlapped or container-grown plants. Keep roots moist before planting and use a starter solution to encourage growth. Remove weeds, and mulch root balls with double-ground brown mulch or compost.	29	30	01	02

MAY 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	01 Set irrigation controller to run once every 7 - 10 days. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 If blackberry production is declining, remove old fruiting canes at ground level and tip back new canes to encourage branching.
03 Control crabgrass and dallisgrass in Bermuda lawns, following label instructions carefully. Also manage nutsedge and reapply pre-emergent weed control to prevent late weed germination. Maintain regular mowing, watering, and fertilizing to reduce weed problems.	04	05 Continue spraying peach and plum trees every 14 days to control insects and diseases until five treatments are completed (this is the fourth application). Continue spraying roses as well, using Neem Oil and Cueva.	06	07 Control powdery mildew on vegetables and ornamentals as needed with Neem Oil. Check vegetables for spider mites and treat with Neem Oil if present.	08 Prune spring-flowering shrubs after blooming, including climbing roses, forsythia, quince, and Indian hawthorn. Shape azaleas and camellias.	09 Watch for bagworms on conifers and thrips, aphids, spider mites, and whiteflies on all plants. Treat with Neem Oil if present.
10 MOTHER'S DAY Plant ornamental grasses from the approved list for a beautiful summer and fall display.	11 Find a source of biological predators for your garden, such as ladybugs or predatory mites.	12 Dig anemone bulbs and store them in a cool, airy place for replanting in December.	13 Check squash plants for vine borers and squash bugs, and control with Neem Oil if needed.	14 Apply pre-emergent weed control to turf, shrubs, and ground covers for warm-season weed prevention. Follow label instructions carefully.	15 Protect hanging baskets and houseplants from wind. 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. Treat with Neem Oil and Cueva as needed.	18 Inspect vegetables, annual flowers, and ornamentals for spider mites; treat with Neem Oil if present.	19 Be prepared to spray pecans for nut casebearer and scab with Neem Oil and Cueva when emergence is announced (timing varies, usually within listed dates). Apply once, then repeat after 7 days.	20	21 Spray fruit trees again for insect and disease control using Neem Oil and Cueva.	22 Inspect broadleaf evergreen shrubs and crape myrtles for scale. Treat with Neem Oil if present.	23 Spot-treat fire ants. Monitor crape myrtles for scale, aphids, and powdery mildew; treat with Neem Oil as needed.
24 Replenish mulch around vegetables, trees, and shrubs to hold moisture. Use dyed-brown, double-ground hardwood mulch or compost.	25 MEMORIAL DAY Mow common Bermuda grass at 1 ½-2 ½ in, hybrid Bermuda at 1 in, and Buffalo grass at 2 ½-4 in. Mow before removing more than 1/3 of the growth. Treat shrub and groundcover beds with a pre-emergent to prevent summer weeds such as crabgrass if not applied earlier this month.	26	27	28 Good drought-tolerant plants for annual color beds include 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

JUNE 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	01 Set irrigation controller to run 1 or 2 times per week. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 Begin harvesting onions, new Irish potatoes, snap beans, cucumbers, squash, radishes, lettuce, blackberries, and peaches.	03 Do not remove spring-flowering bulb foliage until it dies naturally.	04 Water as needed to prevent plant stress. Soak soil 4-6 inches deep, preferably in the early morning.	05 Spot-treat unwanted grasses with Roundup.	06 Treat active fire ant mounds.
07 Check plants for leaf mildew and treat with Neem Oil or Cueva as needed.	08 Fertilize and pinch back chrysanthemums to encourage branching. Remove gladiolus bulbs after leaves turn brown and store in a dry place.	09 Fertilize your lawn. Apply a pre-emergent weed control at half the recommended rate if not applied in May. Use Neem Oil for brown spot and chinch bug control as needed.	10	11 Turn your compost pile and moisten. Continue adding organic matter and nitrogen fertilizer to speed decomposition.	12 Pick and destroy bagworms on trees and junipers, or treat with Neem Oil for control.	13 Fertilize annual flowers and vegetables with a balanced fertilizer to maintain vigor.
14 Control webworms on trees. Check tomatoes for spider mites and treat with Neem Oil as needed.	15 Spray tree trunks with Neem Oil to prevent borer damage. Learn to recognize patterned-hole damage caused by sapsucker woodpeckers.	16 After perennials finish blooming, cut back spent flowers to encourage new blooms. Prune spent rose flowers and fertilize. Fertilize chrysanthemums and pinch terminal buds for bushier plants and more blooms.	17	18 Repair damaged trees as needed, rather than waiting for dormancy.	19 JUNETEENTH Harvest vegetables as they become ready.	20 Remember that the first season is critical for newly planted shrubs, perennials, and trees—keep them well watered.
21 Remember that the first season is critical for newly planted shrubs, perennials, and trees—keep them well watered.	22 Plant spider lily bulbs, choosing large bulbs for blooms the first year.	23 Continue planting new lawn grasses. Warm-season grasses grow best on warm days. Water thoroughly for germination and growth. Fertilize once grass is established, but avoid over-fertilizing. Check turf for grubworms and treat with a Neem Oil drench if needed.	24	25 Continue preventive sprays on roses for black spot, mildew, and thrips using Neem Oil and Cueva.	26	27 Fertilize your lawn if you haven't done so in the last six weeks.
28 When controlling insects and mites, check for biological predators such as ladybugs and predatory mites.	29	30	01	02	03	04

JULY 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	31	01 Set irrigation controller to run 2 times per week. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 Plant gladiolas this month for the last time this year. Fertilize and water as needed.	03 Plant and reset iris. Harvest vegetables as they become ready.	04 INDEPENDENCE DAY Fertilize perennials to encourage next year's vigor.
05 Check plants for spider mites and thrips; treat with Neem Oil if needed.	06 Control insects using ladybugs and predatory mites. Remove spent bloom stalks from perennials to encourage reblooming.	07 For the third and final time, spray pecans for casebearer and scab with Neem Oil and Cueva.	08	09 Turn compost and moisten. Add grass clippings after mowing.	10 Water lawns, vegetables, annuals, trees, and shrubs as needed, giving a thorough soaking rather than frequent light sprinklings. Keep weeds pulled and maintain mulch with compost or dyed-brown, double-ground hardwood mulch.	11
12 Treat ornamental tree trunks for borers with Neem Oil or apply a systemic insect control like Merit to the soil.	13 Don't neglect newly planted landscape materials. Dry conditions can damage young roots, so provide extra water by hand if needed.	14 Check turf, perennial grasses, and flowers for grubworms; treat with Neem Oil if present.	15	16 Check mulch and replace or add where needed to conserve water and prevent weeds.	17 Monitor all plants for scale and aphids; treat with Neem Oil as needed.	18 Soak hanging baskets in a tub of water every few days in addition to daily watering. Fertilize with Miracle-Gro as needed.
19 Fertilize all shrubs, perennials, and ground cover.	20 Remove damaged wood or limbs from trees and shrubs now; don't wait until winter.	21 Protect plants moved outdoors from hot, dry weather. Check and water daily as needed.	22 Watch for armyworms and grubworms in your lawn. Check Bermuda grass for mite damage and treat 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 Apply grubworm control from the last week of July to the second week of September. Treat with Neem Oil when you find four grubworms per square foot.	25 Check plants for powdery mildew and aphids before populations build up. Treat with Neem Oil as needed.
26 Watch for sod webworms in lawns. Control this pest as soon as it appears, using Neem Oil.	27 Treat crape myrtles for aphids and scale insects. If insects are present, treat with Neem Oil.	28 Watch for lace bugs, scale, spider mites, and thrips on most other plants. Treat with Neem Oil as needed.	29 Never apply fertilizer to a dry plant. Water one day, fertilize the next, and then water well. This does not apply to grass.	30	31	01

AUGUST 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
01 / 02 Set irrigation controller to run 1 or 2 times per week. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	03 Plant snap and lima pole beans, cabbage, broccoli, eggplant, Swiss chard, cantaloupe, mustard, okra, parsley, peppers, Irish potatoes, spinach, squash, tomatoes, and watermelon.	04 Remove spent flowers from crape myrtles to encourage new blooms. Watch for powdery mildew, aphids, and scale, and treat with Neem Oil as needed.	05	06 Take cuttings from plumbago, croton, begonias, coleus, flowering purslane, potato vine, and other foliage plants for winter pots and next year's garden.	07 Check perennials regularly for foliage diseases and insects; treat with Neem Oil and Cueva as needed.	08 Sow seeds of cornflower, flowering purslane, petunia, larkspur, snapdragon, baby's breath, bells of Ireland, candy tuft, clarkia...
09 ... cleome, cockscomb, cosmos, gaillardia, and stocks.	10 Plant snap and lima pole beans, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard, corn, cucumber, eggplant, lettuce, mustard, okra, parsley, English peas, southern peas, peppers, Irish potatoes, pumpkins, spinach, squash, and turnips.	11	12	13	14 Treat plants for mites, lace bugs, and thrips with Neem Oil when present.	15 If you haven't treated for grubworms, check for and control with Neem Oil if needed. Apply lawn fertilizer and water thoroughly.
16	17 Control pecan aphids, shuck worms, webworms, and foliage diseases with Neem Oil and Cueva.	18 Add compost or dyed-brown, double-ground hardwood mulch to beds to conserve water.	19 This is a good time to build a compost bin. Keep compost moist but not soggy.	20 Water young vegetable plants to prevent wilting and death.	21 Control weeds in gardens and flower beds.	22 Stop pinching chrysanthemums and poinsettias after this date.
23 Shade newly emerged vegetable plants from hot afternoon sun.	24 Plant snap bush beans, lima bush beans, beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, collards, lettuce, mustard, onion seed, parsley, and spinach.	25	26 Prepare planting beds for strawberries.	27 Start seeding pansies and violas for fall planting.	28 Sow bluebonnet and other wildflower seeds for next spring and summer. Purchase seeds from Wildseed Farms.	29 Monitor watering closely for all plants.
30 Watch plants for powdery mildew and treat with Neem Oil as needed.	31	01	02	03	04	05

SEPTEMBER 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	31	01 Set irrigation controller to run once a week. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 Plant or reset iris, daylilies, daisies, cannas, and ground cover plants.	03 Sow fescue grass seed in heavily shaded areas where grass has died, including low-light spots along the sides of your house. This helps fill in bare areas.	04	05 Sow seeds in flower beds of alyssum, calendula, dianthus, pansies, violas, and poppies.
06 Plant snap beans, lima bush beans, beets, cabbage, collards, onion seeds, parsley, radishes, spinach, and turnips. Also sow poppy seeds in your garden.	07 LABOR DAY	08 This is the last period to plant Bermuda grass seed for establishment before cool weather. Seed or sod planted after September may freeze in winter. Keep seeded sod moist for protection.	09	10 Stop fertilizing trees and shrubs to allow them to harden before frost.	11 Do not prune spring-flowering trees and shrubs, as this will remove potential blooms.	12 Disbud chrysanthemums to encourage larger blooms. This doesn't mean removing all the buds.
13 Apply a pre-emergent weed control to lawns, ground cover, and shrub beds for cool-season weed control. Applications can be made as late as the third week of October to help prevent spring weeds.	14	15 Begin preparing houseplants for overwintering indoors. Re-pot overgrown plants and feed established pots with a complete liquid houseplant fertilizer.	16	17 Fertilize lawns according to label instructions, applying in two directions for even coverage.	18 Evaluate your landscape for potential new plantings this fall, winter, and spring.	19 Take cuttings from foliage plants that have been outdoors.
20 Prepare spring-flowering bulb beds for fall planting. Sow the Texas/Oklahoma wildflower mix available from Wildseed Farms.	21	22 Watch for the third generation of mesquite webworms on mesquite trees and treat with Neem Oil as needed.	23	24 Continue the disease spray schedule on roses, as black spot and mildew can be severe in September and October. Treat with Neem Oil and Cueva.	25 Plant bluebonnet seeds in your flower beds. Purchase seeds from Wildseed Farms.	26
27 Be first to select and purchase spring-flowering bulbs when available. Store bulbs in the refrigerator until planting in November or December. Sow crimson clover as a cover crop in your garden.	28	29	30 Watch all plants for whitefly infestations and treat with Neem Oil as needed.	01	02	03

OCTOBER 2026

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
27	28	29	30	01 Set irrigation controller to run once every 7 - 10 days. If it is raining, turn controller OFF.	02 Place potted poinsettias in darkness from 6 PM to 8 AM to encourage red color by Christmas.	03
04 Use biological predators like ladybugs and predator mites to help control insects and mites.	05	06 Keep weeds out of fall vegetable gardens and water regularly.	07 Continue dividing and transplanting popular perennials such as daylilies, liriope, ajuga, and iris.	08 Plant garlic, parsley, radishes, spinach, and turnips.	09 Harvest pumpkins and squash, cure for several weeks, and store in a cool, dry place.	10 Plant transplants of pansies, violas, sedum, alyssum, kale, parsley, and collards.
11 Plan your landscaping and plant new trees and shrubs where needed. Cooler weather is ideal for establishing new trees.	12 Sow Rebel fescue grass seed in shaded areas around your home at 1lb. per 1,000sq.ft.	13	14 Remove all wood from around your house to help prevent termites.	15 Control insects and diseases on fall garden crops with Neem Oil and Cueva as needed. Treat loopers with Neem Oil.	16	17 Mulch strawberry and vegetable beds to protect against frost.
18 Take cuttings from tender plants before frost.	19 Collect dried plant material for fall flower arrangements.	20 Dig and store caladium bulbs in a dark, dry place, buried in peat moss or rice hulls once they have dried.	21 Now is a great time to plant trees and shrubs.	22 Control scale insects on ornamental plants using Neem Oil.	23 Container-grown nursery stock can still be planted—watch for year-end specials.	24 Air-layer overgrown, leggy houseplants. Check online for examples.
25 Control nematodes in fallow vegetable gardens with Neem Oil. Wait three weeks before planting.	26 Plant daffodils, narcissi, crocus, and Dutch iris bulbs.	27 Stop shearing shrubs now to prevent freeze damage.	28 Don't forget to water plants during winter whenever temperatures are above freezing.	29 Start moving houseplants indoors that have spent the summer outside.	30	31 HALLOWEEN

NOVEMBER 2026

ANNUAL GARDENING CALENDAR

PREPARED FOR SHADOW CREEK RANCH

BY DR. ROBERT E. MOON



DR. R.E. MOON +
ASSOCIATES

est. 1982

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>01</p> <p>Set irrigation controller to run once every 2 weeks.</p> <p>If it is raining, turn controller OFF.</p>	<p>02</p> <p>Plant radishes and spinach. Continue harvesting vegetables as they become ready.</p>	<p>03</p> <p>Plant spring-flowering bulbs such as daffodils, Dutch iris, and anemones. Chill tulips and hyacinths for 4-6 weeks before planting.</p>	<p>04</p> <p>Remove debris from flower beds and gardens to help control diseases and insects. This is also a good time to spray fruit trees to prevent fungal and bacterial diseases. Treat with Neem Oil and Cueva.</p>	<p>05</p>	<p>06 TEXAS ARBOR DAY</p> <p>Prepare beds and plant pansies and violas for winter and early spring color.</p>	<p>07</p> <p>Keep accent urns and containers drained to prevent water from freezing and causing breakage. Continue planting pansies, snapdragons, pinks, and flowering cabbage...</p>
<p>08</p> <p>... Establish a compost pile for fallen leaves. Root-prune wisteria that failed to flower. Monitor winter annuals for aphids, as infestations can build up quickly.</p>	<p>09</p> <p>Take time to enjoy the brilliant fall colors in tree-lined lanes—nature's own masterpiece!</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Spray stone fruit trees with Neem Oil to help control diseases. Ensure temperatures are above freezing when applying.</p>	<p>11 VETERANS DAY</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Check that greenhouse heating systems are working correctly. Maintain night temperatures around 65°F to protect tropical and tender plants.</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Fertilize all perennial beds by applying fertilizer to the soil between plants, keeping it away from the stems to avoid damage.</p>
<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Store pecans at 36-40°F or in a deep freezer to maintain freshness. Keep them away from onions, as the odor can affect the nuts' flavor.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Hold off on cutting back ornamental grasses—they should be pruned in the spring.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Lightly thin evergreen trees to reduce the risk of ice damage during winter.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Keep newly planted trees, shrubs, and perennials well-watered as needed to support root establishment.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Spade or turn over all empty garden beds and let them lie fallow. Use this time to improve or repair edging materials.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>This is an ideal time to plant container-grown ground covers, shrubs, and trees.</p>
<p>22</p> <p>If you enjoy having birds in your winter landscape, set up feeding stations to attract them.</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Be careful not to overwater houseplants. Water thoroughly when needed, but allow the soil to dry out between waterings, as root rot can be a problem during the winter months.</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 THANKSGIVING</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Treat vegetable garden soil with Neem Oil to control nematodes.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Clean and oil garden tools—apply linseed oil to the handles—and service lawn equipment.</p>
<p>29</p> <p>Now is an excellent time to add landscape to your home by planting trees and shrubs.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>01</p>	<p>02</p>	<p>03</p>	<p>04</p>	<p>05</p>

DECEMBER 2026

ANNUAL GARDENING CALENDAR

PREPARED FOR SHADOW CREEK RANCH
BY DR. ROBERT E. MOON



DR. R.E. MOON +
ASSOCIATES

est. 1982

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30	01 Turn irrigation controller OFF.	02 Select your cut Christmas tree early. Re-cut the base and place it in water. Decorate the tree after it has absorbed water for a few days.	03 Build or repair cold frames and hotbeds to prepare for early-season planting and seed starting.	04 If your houseplants are tall and spindly, it's a sign they aren't getting enough light—move them to a brighter spot or supplement with a grow light.	05 If live oaks have not yet been pruned, do so now to reduce the risk of ice damage during winter.
06 Prevent evergreens in your landscape from drying out by watering whenever the soil begins to dry.	07	08 AVERAGE FIRST FROST Choose horticultural gifts for your gardening friends and relatives. Gift certificates make excellent options.	09 Plan to plant a tree during the Christmas season.	10 Shape hollies now and use the cuttings for Christmas decorations.	11 Remove and destroy bagworm pouches from junipers, as the eggs inside will overwinter and hatch next season.	12 Water your cut Christmas tree daily, using warm water to help it stay fresh longer.
13 For a unique twist this year, choose a living Christmas tree for your home. Good options include Afghan Pine, Japanese Black Pine, Austrian Pine, Atlas Cedar, and Deodar Cedar.	14	15 Be careful not to overwater Christmas plants, and keep all gift plants away from cold drafts to protect them.	16	17 Give a Christmas plant, like a poinsettia, to your best friend—they make a cheerful gift and, contrary to myth, are generally NOT poisonous to people.	18 Remove grasses and weeds from around the trunks of fruit trees and grapevines to prevent damage from mice and other rodents.	19
20 Avoid using high-nitrogen fertilizers at this time. Instead, use fertilizers that are high in phosphorus to promote root development and overall plant hardiness.	21	22 Plant tulips and hyacinths in well-prepared garden beds, ensuring the soil is loose, well-drained, and enriched with compost or organic matter.	23 Treat plants for scale insects using Neem Oil, following label instructions for proper dilution and application.	24 If you follow organic gardening practices, now is a good time to enrich your garden soil with composted cow manure. Apply it evenly and work it lightly into the soil.	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 Fertilize violas, pansies, perennials, and annuals for healthy growth and blooms.
27 Choose fruit and landscape tree varieties from the approved plant list that thrive in this climate.	28 Prepare hot and cold frames for seeding vegetable and flower transplants.	29 Test your soil to determine the proper amendments.	30	31	01	02