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JULY'S PLANNING GUIDE

PLANT:

- **Annuals & Tropicals**-Begonias, coleus, caladiums & impatiens for morning sun/shade; for sun: zinnias, pentas, scaevola, periwinkles, moss rose, marigolds, sweet potato vine, tropical hibiscus, mandevilla, etc.
- **Perennials**-Butterfly bush, artemesia, salvia, lantana, Mexican petunia, coneflower, gaillardia, verbena, sedum, coral bells, loosestrife, etc.
- **Roses** (**EarthKind Roses** are heat and drought tolerant and resistant to insect/disease).
- **Trees, palms, shrubs, ornamental grasses & groundcover.** (Hand water throughout the summer while roots get established.) Choose **Crape Myrtles** now while in bloom based on color & mature size you want.
- **Bermuda or St. Augustine sod** and water daily until rooted. It's also a great time to plant **Bermuda seed**.
- **Tomato** and **pepper** plants; **pumpkins** from seed.

PRUNE:

- Spent flowers, leaves & seedheads on **perennials**.
- Cut leggy **annuals** (impatiens, begonia, coleus) back to keep them compact.
- **Shrubs & trees** to reshape. When pruning **Oaks**, use sealant to protect against oak wilt. Prune spent **Crape Myrtle** blooms lightly to encourage another round of color.
- **Mow lawn** regularly at recommended height (1½" for Bermuda; 2-2½" for St. Augustine).

FERTILIZE:

- Newly planted trees and shrubs every 3-4 weeks with **Ferti.lome Root Stimulator**.
- Lawn with **Covington's Premium Lawn Fertilizer**. This slow-release, high nitrogen fertilizer is designed for North Texas turf. It contains sulphur and iron.
- Trees, shrubs, vines, groundcover and perennials with **Covington's Special**. This 12-6-6 slow release fertilizer is excellent for producing quality plants in the landscape.
- Flowers with **Osmocote** and/or water-soluble plant food. Iron-deficient plants with **Ironite** or **Ferti.lome Soil Acidifier Plus Iron**.

BE ON WATCH:

- Aphids, spider mites, mealy bugs, scale, etc., can be controlled with **Bonide Systemic Insecticide**.
- Powdery mildew, rust, black spot and a host of disease and fungi that attack hawthorne, photinias, roses, crape myrtles and more. Treat with **Ferti.lome Systemic Fungicide**.
- We still have **MSMA** that can treat weeds in Bermuda grass. Spot treat broadleaf weeds in St. Augustine with **Ferti.lome Weed-Out**. Treat nutsedge (nutgrass) with **Sedgehammer** and add **Hi-Yield Spreader Sticker** for an enhanced kill on nutgrass.

WATER:

- Most container plants and flower beds in sun will need daily watering. Water shrubs & trees less frequently but deeply to produce hardier, better rooted plants. Inspect sprinkler system regularly to ensure it is working properly. Hand water areas that do not get sprinkled adequately. Use soaker hoses when possible.
- Add **Soil Moist** and **Expanded Shale** before planting and mulch beds 2" deep to improve water retention. Water all plants with **Enviro Raindrops** spray to prolong the effects of good watering.
- Trees installed for less than two years must have special care to ensure a strong and healthy root system. See our Plant Article on **Tree Care for the First Two Years** on our website or come by Covington's for one.