

Plant Ranch Nursery

THINGS TO DO IN SEPT & OCT

1. **LAWN FERTILIZER.** In Sept use Fertilome Weed & Feed if you have a weed problem, otherwise fertilize with Fertilome Lawn Food plus Iron. In November you can apply Fertilome Winterizer to help your lawn through the cooler months.
2. **LAWN DISEASES AND INSECTS.** With heavy rains received from tropical storm Faye it is advisable to treat your lawn with fungicide such as Fertilome F-stop. Be on the look out for diseases such brown patch, and gray leaf spot. Insects are active at this time, so keep an eye out for chinch bugs and sod web worms. We recommend Hy-Yield Bug Blaster for these insect problems. We stock a full line of products, both in liquid and granular.
3. **LAWN WEED CONTROL.** Apply Hi-Yield Turf & Ornamental Weed & Grass Stopper now. This pre-emergent will help control winter weeds before they sprout.
4. **IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.** September is normally one of the heavier months for rain and with tropical storm Faye giving us an excess of rain you should be able to adjust your systems to fewer days per week and in some cases off completely.
5. **TREES AND SHRUBS..** Sept is the time to fertilize, we suggest Espoma Holly Tone as a general-purpose fertilizer. We also carry a full line of Espoma specialty products for plants such as palms, fruit trees, vegetables and potted plants. Stop by our store and we will be happy to assist you and answer your question.
6. **PRUNING.** Many spring bloomers such as Japanese Magnolias, Redbuds, azaleas, wisteria, camellias, spireas and poinsettias have set their flower buds for next year, so don't prune them now.
7. **GENERAL THINGS TO WATCH AND DO.**
 - a. Poinsettias need to be fertilized in September with a general-purpose fertilizer. Keep plants in the dark in the evenings so they can develop flowers.
 - b. Gardenias will often have the lower leaves turn yellow in the fall. This is a natural occurrence; do not be concerned.
 - c. Christmas cactus. Place in a dark area each night from 5PM to 8AM for 6 weeks beginning in mid October. Continue this short day treatment for 6 weeks and then return them to their normal spot. Flowers should appear in 10 weeks from the start of this treatment.