



Monthly Tips for
October

"Clippings"
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Monthly Tips to Help You Care For and Maintain Your Landscape



Drought Resistant Plants for our Area

- As you know, San Antonio has only one source of water to rely on – the Edwards Aquifer. The aquifer has plenty of water now, but we all know how quickly that can change.
- Since we live in a semi-arid region, we can't count on rainfall to replenish the aquifer. One way we can conserve our water is by using hardy, drought resistant plants in our landscapes.
- Trees are probably the most essential element in our landscapes. They live for many, many years, provide wonderful shade and add to the value of our property. Some great trees to have in our landscape are Live Oak, Monterrey Oak, Cedar Elm, Chinquapin Oak, Bur Oak, Bald Cypress, Desert Willow, Chinese Pistache, Bradford Pear and Mexican Sycamore.
- Some types of perennials that need little water are Daylily, Garden Canna, Indian Blanket, Lantana, Mexican Sage, Bearded Iris, Muhly Grass, Yarrow, Blackfoot Daisy, Firebush, Mexican Oregano and Sweet Violet.
- Types of turf that are drought resistant are Buffalo, Zoysia and Bermuda.
- Some types of hardy shrubs are Eleagnus, Red Yucca, Oleander, Burford Holly, Mt. Laurel, Fraser Photinias, Green Pittosporum, Texas Persimmon, Windmill Palm, Nandina, Yaupon Holly, Glossy Abelia, Althea, Dwarf Palmetto, Crepe Myrtle, Flame Acanthus and Tea Rose.
- Some drought resistant groundcovers are English Ivy, Liriope, Blue Shade, Trailing Juniper, Santolina, Vinca and Asiatic Jasmine.
- The correct use of mulch is very important. A layer of mulch locks in moisture, slows evaporation and reduces soil temperatures, so that plants need less water.
- Green Grass can evaluate your landscape and provide solutions on how to introduce drought resistant plants in your landscape.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO REDUCE YOUR WATER BILL?

Enrich your existing landscape or create a new one, with wildlife-friendly, drought resistant plants. These plants require less water and as a BONUS they will attract and support Songbirds, Butterflies, Hummingbirds, and other desired wildlife.

Call us for more details.

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Lawns:

Fertilize and apply pre-emergent herbicide in turf and bed areas. Also, aerate lawn and top dress lawn areas. If the weather is cool, plant Rye grass seed to cover ground for the winter or for beautification of turf areas. (Provided there are no water restrictions). October is a good time to sow cool season grasses.

Green Grass can provide this service at a reasonable price.

Flowers:

Once weather cools, you can plant Pansies, Snapdragons, Dianthus, Petunias, Violas, Dusty Miller, Flowering Cabbage and Kale for the winter and early spring color. Finish transplanting Daylilies, Shasta Daisies, Iris, Violets, Oxalis, Cone Flowers and other spring flowering perennials. Pre-cool Tulip bulbs in your refrigerator for 4 to 6 weeks before planting. Other bulbs require at least 10 weeks pre-cooling before planting for spring blooms.

Plant wildflower seeds and acid treated Bluebonnet seed or transplants.

Garden:

October's cooler weather means it's time to plant cool season vegetables such as carrots, beets, lettuce, parsley, spinach, turnips, etc.

Trees, Shrubs & perennials:

Remove any dead or damaged tree limbs while you can still easily tell them from the healthy ones. Plant container grown landscape shrubs now so you will have hardy plants with a root growth advantage for next spring. Toward the end of October, deeply mulch sub-tropical perennials like Poinsettia, Firebush, Plumbago, Mexican Bird of Paradise and China Doll.

Happy Thanksgiving

Have a Glorious Day and Please, . . . Enjoy the Outdoors,

Francisco Suarez-Pella, Owner
Green Grass Inc.