



12037 Mooresville Road (Hwy 136)
Davidson, North Carolina 28036

FALL LANDSCAPE IDEAS

SEPTEMBER

Do not prune. This will encourage new shoots that might be killed by first frost.

Do not fertilize. This also will encourage new shoots that might be killed by frost.

Watch for insects like scale on hollies, lacebugs on azaleas. Clean up now with Orthene or Isotox so will not reappear in spring. This is the best time to spray cherry, peach, and crabapple for borers with lindane or thiodan.

Begin to plant container shrubs. It is too early for trees. Be sure to keep watered for we tend to be dry this time of the year.

Be careful with string trimmers and lawnmowers. Any damage around trunk of trees is prime for insects to get in.

Continue spraying roses, for damp nights will increase susceptibility to blackspot and mildew. Cut roses back to at least second set of 5 leaves to promote blooming. This will be second best blooming season of year.

Groom annuals and fertilize for fall blooming. Don't forget to water. Cooler temperatures make us think it is not dry, often it is.

Begin to clean up any plants you may bring inside for winter. Spray to get rid of bugs so they don't get on your houseplants.

Fertilize established evergreen lawns with a high nitrogen, slow release lawn fertilizer. Do not fertilize Bermuda lawns or other grasses that brown in winter. Lime all evergreen lawns at 50 pounds per 1000 sq. ft.

Seed new lawns now. This is the best time to plant evergreen grass lawns—much better than spring.

Keep grass mowed through fall. Fescue should be mowed 3 inches high.

Spray any burmuda grass (wire grass) in evergreen lawns so you can reseed late in month or in October.

OCTOBER

Begin planting container trees which have all roots in the pot. Plant a; little higher than the surrounding soil level (don't add dirt on top though).

Continue planting shrubs and perennials. This is the best time of the year for planting shrubs and trees.

Do not pick up container plants by the stem. It loosens roots in the dirt and will not necessarily be corrected by replanting.

Do not prune or fertilize trees this month because of danger of frost on new growth.

Water newly planted shrubs and trees twice a week. Do not think the heavy dew we have this time of the year is water for your plants.

Plant pansies now for winter color. Be careful fertilizing pansies if they are under trees or shrubs. The fertilizer will encourage new growth on existing plants and they can be killed by first frost.

Mulch trees and shrubs to control weeds and insulate roots.

Continue reseeding lawns. New seeding of total lawns should be ending about 15th.

Keep leaves off grass and from around shrub & tree trunks.

Bring in any plants you are going to keep inside of winter.

Dig any semi-hardy bulbs like canna, ginger, dahlia, elephant ears, and caladiums.

Pull up annuals like impatiens and vinca before frost makes them mushy. Clean up all annuals as they cease to be attractive and mulch beds.

NOVEMBER

Plant trees now. Container trees are great for livability and handling. Larger trees are now available as B&B (balled and burlapped).

Choose trees carefully for location and size.

Continue planting shrubs and pansies.

Be certain plants are adequately moist. Frost can be very damaging if plants are too dry.

Wait till next month for major pruning of shrubs and trees. Light pruning for shape can occur now.

Wait until spring to begin fertilizing trees and shrubs.

Watch for scale insects on hollies. They are usually small round white patches on trunk and limbs.

If you have had bad insect or disease problems, consider a dormant oil spray to clean up problems. Follow temperature directions on the package carefully

Keep fallen leaves off grass. Consider composting grass and leaves. Compost is great for planting and adding to soil.

Mulch plants for winter insulation

Prune roses and butterfly bushes back to keep wind from damaging. Should be 2-3 foot tall.

Consider planting winter blooming shrubs like Carolina Jessamine, Witch Hazel, Forsythia, Camellias.

Do not prune spring blooming plants like azalea, camellia, rhododendron, etc. until after they bloom. Their bloom buds are already formed on the plant.

Continue watering, especially on newly planted items, if we are dry.

Watch for chickweed, henbit and other cool season weeds in your lawn. They can be treated with a lawn weed control before they are too damaging.

Fertilize evergreen lawns if not done previously this fall.

Frost comes around first of November, so have all tender plants dug, protected, moved inside.