

AUGUST GARDEN SCHEDULE FOR NEW YORK CITY

August is the month for vigilance. With many people taking vacation falling into the summer doldrums, be sure that there are a few hardy individuals left to maintain your garden. Watering, weeding and mulching are the key to an abundant harvest. A seedy, weedy, wilted garden attracts insects, disease and vandalism. If the garden looks uncared for you may possibly lose some of your crops to the passerby that assumes those ripe juicy red tomatoes will rot before they are eaten. Take time to stand back and relish the visual and edible fruits of your labors. Store-bought produce will never taste the same after your first feast from the garden. Take care to rinse all your vegetables, whether store-bought or homegrown before consuming them. You and your neighbors should share in your cutting garden; give excess flowers to local churches or shut-ins.

ANNUALS. It may not be too late to sow some annuals for a fall bloom of color. Keep picking the dead flowers heads from those already in the garden and collect seeds for next year from those past their prime. For growth through the summer, pinch back herbs in flower before they go to seed. Stake your tall flowering annuals.

WEEDS. Weed is going to seed this month. Try to remove them completely or at least clip off their heads before the seeds scatter. If you are too late for either of the above cultivate your soil two to three days after a heavy rain to prevent new growth of sturdy, young weed lings.

VEGETABLES. Plant your fall crops as soon as possible in the bare spots of your garden. Cool weather crops suitable for planting now with approximate days until harvest include:

Sweet Corn	80	Endive	998
Carrots	75	Bunching Onion	445
Spinach	45	Radish	225
Kohlrabi	58	Turnip	550
Parsnip	15	Chinese Cabbage	880
Broccoli	74	Cabbage	1100
Parsley	76	Cauliflower	550
Kale	58	Brussels Sprouts	1100

There are seasonal varieties of vegetables bred specifically for a fall harvest. These varieties adapt themselves particularly well to cooler temperatures and shortening daylight hours. Be sure that the areas of your garden that are planted with these crops will still be in full sunlight in the fall. Areas that are sunny in August may be in shadow in October due to the shifts in the earth's axis.

If you do not wish to sow fall vegetable crops, plant a "green manure crop" to improve the quality of your soil for the coming year. Now is the time to plant Winter Rye, Ryegrass, Vetch or Soybeans. Winter Rye will remain green throughout the winter as well as enriching the soil.

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THE CITY LOT

BULBS. Start planning your bulb beds for next spring. Order your spring flowering bulbs and bone meal for fall planting. Divide Iris bulbs now. Lilies like cool roots, so much them well. Water Gladiolus with Manure tea (a manure and water solution) and stake them. Autumn Crocus and Madonna Lilies may be planted now.

SEED. Pansies, Forget-Me-Not, English Daises and Parsley can be sown now for over wintering in a cold frame or with heavy, heavy mulching. This will produce sturdier, earlier plants next spring. A careful studies of your garden my reveal volunteer seedlings for Sweet William, Larkspur and Hollyhocks. You can sow Iceland Poppies and Columbines now to flower early next summer.

ROSES. Do not fertilize Roses any longer this year in order to prevent extensive frost damage.

CUTTINGS. Semi-hardwood cuttings of flowering shrubs can still be taken through the end of the month. You can try rooting: Mock Orange, Spiraea, Snowberry, Hibush Blueberry, Ciborium, Weigela, Privet, Honeysuckle, Winterberry, Winged and other Euonymus, Forsythia, Flowering Quince and Japanese Barberry. Plan ahead and assemble everything you will need:

- Rooting medium and container - 50/50 mix peat moss and sand in containers at least 4: deep with drainage.
- Rooting hormone - Naphaleneacetic Acid (Root one) for shrubs.
- Covering and framing materials - Stock, wire and clear plastic.

Cut 7" pieces of this year's growth in the morning after the plant has been watered. Be sure to remove any buds and one-third of the foliage and dip 1" of the base of the stem in the rooting hormone. Place cutting in rooting medium and cover with plastic and frame. Keep moist and remove plastic once cutting has rooted.