



## November Monthly Reminders

### Planting

- Protect young seedlings from cutworms by placing a ring cut from a paper or Styrofoam cup around the transplant at the soil line to protect the stem.
- Early in the month sow seeds outdoors for beets, carrots, peas, onions, chard, spinach, kale, endive, and turnip; transplant broccoli, cabbage and cauliflower starts.
- Early in the month sow seeds outdoors for spring-flowering wildflowers including California and Mexican poppies, cowpen daisy, desert blue bells, desert marigold, tidy tips and white chicory; keep the area moist until seeds germinate.
- Plant flowering perennials such as gaura and angelita daisy. Set out rain lily bulbs.
- This is a good month to transplant trees, shrubs, ground covers, vines, herbs, and winter vegetable plants purchased from nurseries.

### Fertilizing

- Fertilize winter lawns monthly to retain good color. Lawn fertilizers containing nitrate sources of nitrogen work best in cooler weather.
- Add small amounts of ammonium nitrate or ammonium sulfate to winter vegetables every month. Do not fertilize citrus, roses, or frost-tender plants, as this may encourage tender new growth susceptible to freezing.

### Watering

- Make sure you have adjusted your watering frequencies per Arizona Department of Water Resources guidelines.
- Water fall wildflowers.
- If you see fungus or mushrooms, cut back on watering in that area.
- Irrigate in preparation for cold nights. Moist soil will store up heat from the sun's energy and release it at night, keeping your plants warmer.

### Maintenance

- The first frost sometimes occurs in November. Prepare by obtaining sheets (not plastic), blankets, frost cloth, utility lights or large Christmas lights (not miniatures or LED).
- Watch for cold nights and protect plants as needed (Refer to *Frost Protection* [AZ1002](#)).
- Do general garden cleanup. Pull weeds. Remove dead or dying plants, and rake up fallen leaves to compost. (Refer to *Small Scale Composting in the Low Desert of Arizona* [AZ1632](#))
- Replenish organic mulches and stone landscape mulches.
- If prickly pear cacti have a cottony substance on them known as cochineal scale, a strong spray of water from a garden hose will remove most of it. Heavily infested pads should be cut off at the joint and discarded.
- Snip petunias to encourage them to branch and spread. Remove spent blooms of other flowers to increase flower production.

- Move adeniums (desert roses) and other cold-sensitive succulents to a protected area for winter.

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