

Ask an Expert – August Yard and Garden Checklist

JayDee Gunnell

08/01/2022

```
$(document).ready(function(){ $(''.pdf-wrapper').hide();
 $(''.pageTitle').addClass('text-bold'); });
```



The heat is on, and yards and gardens are trying to survive the high temperatures and drought conditions. Consider these tips from the [USU Extension Gardeners Almanac](#) to help your garden succeed. Also included are links for further information.

- Plant [cover crops](#) to provide “green manure” to the garden.
- Collect and store [seeds from your garden](#).
- Learn about how and when to harvest [watermelon](#) and [cantaloupe](#).
- Harvest [potatoes](#) as soon as tubers begin forming.
- Harvest [garlic](#) and [onions](#) once the tops have dried down. Allow them to cure (dry) for 2-3 weeks before storing.
- Store potatoes, garlic and onions in a cool/dry location (32-40°F) away from apples.
- Plant [trees](#) and shrubs as the weather becomes cooler.
- Go hiking in the hills to enjoy [autumn colors](#).
- Divide crowded, spring-blooming perennials.
- Consider [composting](#) fall leaves.
- Check pears for ripeness once the fruit twists off the tree easily and seeds are dark colored, and allow them to finish ripening off the tree.
- Apply a slow-release [lawn fertilizer](#) early in September to provide long-lasting results throughout the fall months.
- Remember that as temperatures cool, turfgrass requires minimal irrigation each week. [See irrigation needs in your area](#).

- Plant [new lawns or repair](#) insect/diseased areas with grass seed, allowing 4-6 weeks for establishment before heavy frosts.
- Aerate compacted sites with a hollow core aerator when [turfgrass](#) is actively growing (September-October).

Pests and Problems:

- Control [raspberry crown borer](#) using a root drench in the late summer or early fall.
- Learn about what causes bitter pit and other [problems in apples](#).
- Control [rust mites](#) in apple and pear trees after harvesting fruit and before leaf drop.
- Watch for [boxelder bugs](#) congregating on sunny surfaces during the fall months.
- Monitor for damaging [turfgrass insects](#).
- [Click here](#) to subscribe to the Utah Pests IPM Advisories for timely tips on controlling pests in your yard and garden.

Consider taking an [online gardening course](#). Courses cover topics such as container vegetable gardening, creating the perfect soil, planting trees, and controlling pests. Courses are geared to both beginning and professional gardeners. Use the code “**GARDEN5**” at checkout to get \$5 off.

Explore more gardening tips on Extension’s [yard and garden website](#). For drought information and tips, [click here](#).

Contact

JayDee Gunnell

Jaydee.gunnell@usu.edu

More Extension Updates

- [Extension News](#)
- [Gardening](#)
- [Recipes](#)
- [Personal Finance](#)
- [Relationships](#)
- [Our Impact](#)

[Tips Sign Up](#) [Take a Course](#) [Donate to Extension](#)