## What to Plant

**Bedding Plants:** Since temperatures can drop to freezing this month, new additions to the garden must be able to withstand cold. Plants that can take a chill include dianthus, pansy, viola, and dusty miller. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

**Bulbs:** Many bulbs can be planted now. Provide adequate water to establish and protect from cold weather with mulch. Some to try are dahlias, crinum, and agapanthus. See: [Bulbs for Florida](#)

**Flowering Plants:** Many trees and shrubs will be in bloom including red maple, spirea, and star magnolia

**Potatoes:** Plant potatoes now. Make sure you buy healthy seed pieces from a local nursery and plant 3” deep. Do not add lime to potato planting bed. See: [Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

## What to Do

**Cold damage to Palms:** If cold weather has damaged palms, proper care may prevent loss of the palm and encourage recovery. See: [Cold Damage on Palms](#)

**Citrus:** Cold temperatures may still injure citrus. Avoid pruning until spring. See: [Citrus Culture in the Home Landscape](#)

**Prune Roses:** Roses should be pruned this month to remove damaged canes and improve the overall form. After pruning, fertilize and apply a fresh layer of mulch. Blooming will begin eight to nine weeks after pruning. See: [Growing Roses in Florida](#)

**Shrubs:** Make certain that you know the height and spread of any shrubs you plan to install. Not all shrubs are suitable for planting next to homes or under windows. See: [The Florida-Friendly Landscaping Guide to Plant Selection and Landscape Design](#)  
[Planting Shrubs in Florida Landscapes](#)

**Lawn Weeds:** After temps rise to 65°F for 4-5 days, apply a pre-emergent weed killer (NOT a weed & feed fertilizer) to lawns this month to prevent warm season weeds. Timing is important for good control. See: [Weed Management in Home Lawns](#)

**Fertilize Citrus and other Fruit Trees:** If not done in January, fertilize now. Frequency and amount of fertilization depends on the age of the tree. See: [Cultural Practices for Dooryard Citrus Deciduous Fruit for North Florida](#)

## What to Do Every Month

- Adjust irrigation based on rainfall.
- Deadhead flowers to encourage new blooms.
- Monitor the garden for insects and disease.
- Plant trees, shrubs, and perennials and water until established.
- **Mow lawns** at recommended heights:
  - St. Augustine & Bahia: 3-4”
  - Centipede: 1.5-2.0”
  - Dwarf St. Augustine: 2.5”
  - Zoysiagrass

## UF Resources For Gardeners

- UF/IFAS Publications (EDIS) [http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/)
- Florida-Friendly Landscaping [http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/)
- Solutions For Your Life [http://solutionsforyourlife.com](http://solutionsforyourlife.com)
- Gardening in a Minute Radio Program [http://gardeninginaminute.com](http://gardeninginaminute.com)
- Florida Master Gardener Program [http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/](http://gardeningolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/mastergardener/)
- Living Green [http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/](http://livinggreen.ifas.ufl.edu/)

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