**What to Plant**

**Bedding Plants:** Summer annuals to plant now include celosia, coleus, torenia and ornamental pepper. See: [Gardening with Annuals in Florida](#)

**Bulbs:** Butterfly lily and gladiolus are bulbs that can be planted during the middle of summer. See: [Bulbs for Florida](#)

**Herbs:** While summer is too hot to start herbs from seeds, many will do well if started from small plants. See: [Herbs in the Florida Garden](#)

**Palms:** Continue planting palms while the rainy season is in full swing. Support large palms with braces for 6-8 months after planting. Nails should not be driven directly into a palm trunk. See: [Transplanting Palms in the Landscape](#)

**What to Do**

**Trees:** Prepare for hurricane season by checking trees for damaged or weak branches and prune if needed. Hire an ISA certified arborist. See: [Pruning Young Trees](#) [Pruning Mature Trees](#) [International Society of Arboriculture](#)

**Lawns:** Determine the cause of any lawn problems before taking action. If an insect is the culprit, treat only the affected area. Rule out disease or sprinkler malfunction. See: [Insect Management in Your Florida Lawn](#)

**Solarize the vegetable garden:** Use summer heat as a tool in preparing the vegetable garden for fall planting. It takes 4-6 weeks to kill weeds, disease and nematodes, so start now. See: [Introduction to Soil Solarization Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide](#)

**Azaleas:** Prune no later than mid-July to protect developing buds for next spring’s bloom. See: [Azaleas at a Glance](#)

**Irrigation:** An inexpensive rain shut off device can save money by overriding an irrigation system when it rains. If one is already installed, check that it is operating properly. See: [Residential Irrigation System Rainfall Irrigation Shutoff Devices](#)

**Pests on Ornamental Plants:** Small white dots on the leaves of azaleas and other ornamental plants may indicate lacebugs at work. Spray forcefully with water to help control this pest. See: [Lacebugs on Ornamental Plants](#)

**Citrus:** Check citrus trees for damage to fruit or leaves and take action to minimize the effect of insects and/or disease on developing fruit or the overall health of the tree. See: [Citrus Problems in the Home Landscape](#)

**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/)

Comments or suggestions?
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