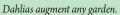
Page: D14 LAMORINDA WEEKLY OUR HOMES www.lamorindaweekly.com 925-377-0977 Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018

## Cynthia Brian's Garden Guide for November





Photos Cynthia Brian



Red sunflowers

**SEED** or reseed lawns. If you prefer to install sod, autumn is the best time. Make sure you have prepared the bare soil with plenty of rich, organic matter before sodding.

**FILL** bare spots with a mixture of seed, compost and potting soil. Make sure to water thoroughly and keep moist until the grass sprouts.

**RAKE** leaves, especially off lawns, as grass needs as much sunlight as possible. You can also use your mower to chop the leaves.

**MOW** lawns shorter in fall until the grass stops growing to prevent matting.

**WINTERIZE** your grass by fertilizing heavily before the first rain. By feeding your lawn you'll give it the tools it needs to develop strong roots to survive winter.

**PLANT** spring blooming bulbs anytime through January. These include daffodils, tulips, crocus, Dutch iris, and hyacinths.

**SCATTER** wildflower seeds for a spring butterfly garden.

**CLIP** florets of basil and continue consuming as the herb will die completely back during winter. Any extra leaves can be frozen or dried.

**SAVE** seeds from your favorite sunflowers to sow next spring and if you carve pumpkins, dry these seeds for later planting or roast them as a healthy snack.

**PLANT** perennials that will reward you with blooms throughout the year including chrysanthemums, dahlias, statis, and hibiscus.

**DEADHEAD** roses for a final flush of flowers.

**ENJOY** the plethora of shapes, sizes, and textures of gourds and pumpkins. You can use them to decorate for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and spray paint them in our favorite holiday colors for Christmas and Chanukah displays. **FIX** leaky faucets and pipes to deter thirsty ants.

**FERTILIZE** your entire landscape in preparation for the forthcoming cooler climate.

**ADD** a thick layer of mulch (three to four inches) to deprive weeds of light and to insulate plants from varying temperatures. Leaves, compost, shredded newspaper, cardboard, and straw add organic matter to the soil. Because organic matter deteriorates over time, you will need to replace as needed.

GOAD your ghoul and rock All Hallowed Eve, All Saints and All Souls Day with cheer and gratitude.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. Cynthia Brian



Perennial chrysanthemums brighten the fall landscape.