

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for November

A time to plant ... a time to reap



Photos Cynthia Brian

Leaves on this maple are modeling their autumn wardrobe.

By Cynthia Brian

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

With the power disruptions and fire fears of October in our rearview mirrors, we welcome November with open arms and grateful hearts. It won't be long before the rains arrive. Driving or walking throughout the region, we witness a marvelous display of fall foliage as leaves on many deciduous trees turn from green to saffron to tangerine to crimson before dropping to the ground.

Time to fertilize heavily. In autumn, plants quit sending minerals and water to leaves and blooms. The nutrients are instead directed to increase the roots while storing food for the winter months. We witness the foliage color change to our great delight

When you fertilize at this time of year, you'll be feeding your trees, shrubs, plants and lawns. This dormant feeding is crucial for the success of your garden for the following seasons. The roots are busy storing nourishment even though the above-ground growth has halted. It's best to do this heavy feeding after the first rain to assist the fertilizer to go deeper into the ground. ... continued on next Page



Fibrous wax leaf begonias are still blooming. When flowers fade, cut back, but don't remove.