

Gardener's Corner

August 2024

I can't believe it is August already. Summer is almost over and there is still so much gardening left to do--weeding, mulching, pruning etc. The list of tasks is long.

The **Missouri Botanical Garden** suggests not fertilizing your roses after about the middle of the month. Now that bagworms are no longer feeding, they are attaching to twigs and manual removal or pruning is the best way to control for them. A light hedge pruning can be done for the last time.

Continue deadheading annuals and perennials now. Fertilizing some annuals will encourage new fall blooms. Irises and daylilies can be divided now. Old centers and parts damaged by borers should be discarded at this time. Dormant cool season lawns (those that grow best in areas with cold winters and hot summers and temperatures are between 50-80°F) need soaking now for strong growth this fall.

If you are plagued with weeds after these summer rains, the **University of Missouri's (MU) Division of Plant Sciences** has a handy guide that can help you identify your nemesis. You can find it at the *Weed Id Guide* here: <https://weedid.missouri.edu/>

Many of us grow plants in containers. Although these plants have been growing for a while, there is still plenty of time for them to provide beautiful displays of flowers into fall. The **University of Minnesota Extension's Yard and Garden** has a good article with tips on how to maintain blooms throughout the summer. *Fertilizing and watering container plants* can be found at: <https://extension.umn.edu/managing-soil-and-nutrients/fertilizing-and-watering-container-plants>

The latest edition of the **MU Extension's Garden Spade** has two great articles you may enjoy. The first, *Keukenhof Gardens and Tulips*, is of special interest to me since I visited those gardens in April and saw the magnificent tulip displays. The second is very timely, *Garlic: Secret Weapons of Ancient Olympians*. You can find both at: https://i.emlfiles4.com/cmpdoc/9/4/0/0/9/1/files/24431_august-2024-garden-spade-newsletter.pdf?utm_campaign=1088141_August%202024%20Garden%20Spade&utm_medium=email&utm_source=email&dm_i=42N5,NBM5,4SVDF6,2P70X,1

Webinars:

August 13, 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. *Winter gardening and overwintering crops* is sponsored by the **St. Louis County Library**. **Seed St. Louis** will present this program. You can register at: <https://slcl.events.mylibrary.digital/event?id=98618>

August 13, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. *Foodscaping: Creating snacks among the flower beds* presented by the **University of Illinois Extension**. Register at: <https://registration.extension.illinois.edu/start/four-seasons-gardening-webinar-foodscaping-creating-snacks-among-the-flower-beds-aug-13>

August 22, 10 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Learn to grow roses*. Presented by **AARP**. Learn more and register at: <https://local.aarp.org/vcc-event/virtual-aarp-tx-learn-to-grow-roses-houston-tx-82224-wnndvbypxq4.html>

