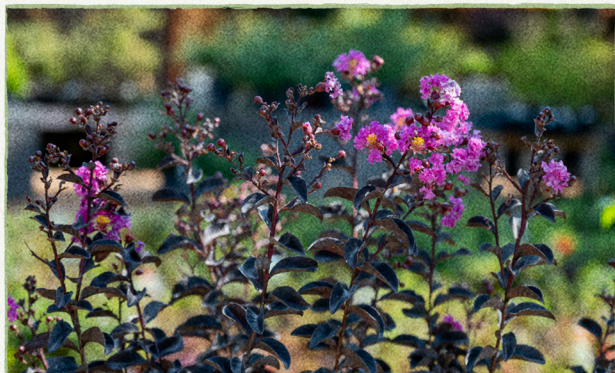


JULY

garden planning checklist



PLANT OF THE MONTH — crepe myrtle —

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Lawn Care: During the heat of summer, mow your lawn a little taller to help shade the soil and reduce moisture loss. Water deeply in the early morning, providing about 1-inch of water each week.

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Moles & Voles: If tunnels and raised ridges are appearing in your lawn, now is the time to treat for moles and voles before damage becomes more widespread.

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Shrubs: July is the last recommended month to lightly shape many evergreen shrubs. Avoid heavy pruning until cooler weather returns to protect plants from summer stress.

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Harvest Time: Pick cucumbers and eggplant while they're young and tender for the best flavor. Harvest herbs before they flower for peak fragrance, then dry and store them for later use.

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Fall Vegetables: Start planning your fall garden by sowing seeds for broccoli, cabbage, collards, kale, beets, carrots, spinach, lettuce, and turnips for harvest later this season.

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Butterfly Bush: Encourage continued summer blooms on butterfly bushes by removing spent flower clusters throughout the season.

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Deadheading: Remove faded blooms from annuals and repeat-blooming perennials to encourage more flowers and keep garden beds looking their best.