

- ▶ NOW AVAILABLE: DRIP IRRIGATION
- ▶ LAWN WATERING
- ▶ FATHER'S DAY - JUNE 16TH!

JUNE 2013



# Gill Garden News



Summertime brings out the best (and sometimes the most challenging) in our gardens and landscapes. You need only look through a home and garden magazine filled with mouth-watering recipes from summer harvests along with ghastly tales of lawn eating, leaf chewing bugs taking over ones' prized gardens. Yes- we have all that and more in our bend of Texas. June bugs buzzing around our porch lights and cicadas' singing in the trees tells us the season of long days and cool drinks is here.

Gill's Garden Party is happening every Friday from 3 to 6pm at both stores. We love hanging out with all our garden friends and helping you with your garden shopping. Share your email with us and get the weekly party specials early. A little music, a cold drink, and beautiful surroundings make a perfect start to any weekend.

## LET'S TALK LAWN WATERING...

As you may know, our lakes that provide us with water are running low, 33.4% as I write this. City officials and area business representatives are working together to come up with short and long term solutions for residential and business water needs. One of the biggest areas homeowners can contribute is how much we water our lawns. I know, I know not what any of us wants to hear; we LOVE our green lawns so much that we actually do more damage by over watering. The idea that established lawns require more than once a week watering during summer is just wrong! The only exception is if you have sand as soil, which then water twice a week during the summer months. In fact, during most of the year, it only needs water every couple of weeks depending on temperature and cloud cover. So we want everyone who waters their lawn to rethink their watering schedule. Cut back to only once a week watering NOW. Visit our website or pick up a copy of the cycle soak watering method. Your lawn will thank you and so will we.

## PLANT

- All container grown trees, shrubs, vines. It's prime time to plant tropicals such as hibiscus, bougainvillea, ginger and palms.
- Late spring and summer color - zinnias, periwinkles, purslane, moss rose, gomphrena, lantana, ruellia, penta, caladiums, coleus, angelonia and more.

## PRUNE

- Faded blooms to encourage new blooms – especially important on perennials, tropicals, and crape myrtles
- Shrubs to maintain good form
- Palms, if needed

## LAWN CARE

- Fertilize early in the month, if not already done. Apply slow release (Green Diamond 21-7-14) to your lawn. Water in well (approximately 30 minutes per area).
- Organic fertilizers such as Milorganite, Lady Bug Lawn & Garden, Medina Growin Green and Gardenville are excellent fertilizers that feed plants and soil
- Lay new sod anytime, and Bermuda seed anytime this month.
- Apply Ironite or Hi Yield Iron Plus to yellow spots in lawn. Organically use Texas Green Sand.
- Mow as required. Keep St. Augustine cut to about 3", Bermuda at 1" – 2".
- Watch for Chinch Bugs and Grub Worms.
- Water well every 7 to 10 days. (Use the cycle soak method – we have handouts and information on our website).

## WATER

*BE SURE TO FOLLOW CITY WATERING GUIDELINES!*

- When watering during periods of windy dry conditions, it's important to water slowly and deeply. Be sure to watch the spray of sprinklers and adjust accordingly with the wind.
- Water all plants well after planting and regularly through the first year.
- Plants will begin to use more water as they grow and bloom. Outdoor potted plants dry out quickly as do hanging baskets and small annuals.
- Mulch around trees and flowerbeds to conserve moisture.
- Check new plants daily for water needs, many will need water every day.
- Make arrangements for someone to water if leaving for more than 2 days (especially new plants).
- Watch your perennials. Check soil moisture before watering. Many plants can die from over watering.
- Use a moisture meter when in doubt.

## FERTILIZE

- Tomato and pepper plants regularly. Use Ammonium Sulfate 21-0-0 or Miracle Gro for Tomatoes, organically with Rose Glo or Hasta Gro, or Plant Tone.
- All roses with Rose Food or Bayer Rose & Flower Care, organically with Maestro Gro Rose Glo.
- All trees and shrubs with Gill Lawn and Garden Fertilizer, Green Diamond Supreme Lawn Food, organically with Milorganite, Medina Growin Green, Lady Bug Lawn and Garden or Gardenville
- Annuals and perennials, with Miracle Gro or Osmocote Time Release Granules, organically with Medina Growin Green, Lady Bug Lawn and Garden, Rose Glo or Hasta Gro.
- Your azaleas, gardenias, and magnolias with Azalea Food or Miracle Gro ACR for acid loving plants, organically with Maestro Gro-Rose Glo or Medina Growin Green
- All hibiscus and tropical bloomers with Hibiscus Food, organically with Rose Glo or Hasta Gro
- Citrus and Pecan trees with Pecan, Citrus and Fruit Tree Fertilizer, organically with Lady Bug Lawn and Garden or Espoma Citrus Tone
- All granular fertilizer should be watered in well.

*We invite you to head to  
[www.gillnursery.com](http://www.gillnursery.com) and  
follow us on Facebook for more  
garden news, upcoming events, and  
up to date city water guidelines.*

## WATCH OUT FOR

- Caterpillars or their damage (chewed leaves). Spray with Gardentech Liquid Seven, organically with Thuricide or Spinosad.
- Fungus, Powdery Mildew – Daconil, systemic fungicide, organically with Neem Oil or Serenade
- Chinch bugs in lawns - treat with Cyonara RTS, Spectracide Triazicide liquid or granules, or HY Yield Kill-A-Bug, organically with Diatomaceous Earth or Pyrethrin.
- Grub worms - use Bayer Complete, Spectracide Triazicide, Season Long Grub Control, organically with Pyrethrin or Nematodes
- Mealy bugs - treat with Liquid Sevin, Spectracide Triazicide or Bonide Systemic organically with Neem Oil, Insecticidal Soap or Pyrethrin.
- Spider mites - use Spectracide Triazicide or Bonide Systemic, organically with Neem Oil, Spinosad. Seaweed extract helps prevent them.
- Fleas and ticks - treat lawns with HY Yield Kill-A-Bug, Spectracide Triazicide, organically with Spinosad, or Diatomaceous Earth Crawling Insect Killer.
- Borers in mesquites, cottonwoods, ash raintrees, chinaberry, and yucca. Spray with Bonide Borer Killer, organically with Spinosad or Fertilome Borer Bagworm Leafminer Spray.

## Gills' Summer 2013 Garden Talks

Join us these Saturdays 10 to 11 am at our Airline store. It's fun, informative, and free!  
Questions are always welcome.

**JUNE 1st**

**ATTRACTIVE ALTERNATIVES FOR YOUR YARD**

*Speaker Kathy Hubner, Landscape Designer, Gill Landscape Nursery*

You can have the best landscape in the neighborhood with less lawn space. Join us as Kathy offers beautiful landscape ideas with more emphasis on plants and garden accents while enjoying that spot of green in your lawn.

**JUNE 8TH**

**SUMMER COLOR FOR CONTAINERS**

*Speakers Merlien Wilder & Marta Swanner, Gill Landscape Nursery*

Summer Flowers are spectacular beauties and containers make them the perfect addition for your new patio or landscape. Join Merlien and Marta as they show us how to plant these artistic creations of color.