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AUGUST 2014



# Gill Garden News

*Matt having fun with Stoney!  
Stu from our Landscape Department.*



*Grace will always jump in and get the job done.  
Mike from landscape found a working buddy!*

It's August, and thank goodness, so far we've had a little rain, beautiful clouds, smart water restrictions, and fun folks visiting our garden centers this summer! AND FALL IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER!! Over the next months, you will be seeing photos of our Gill staff included in our weekly news. We are very thankful & proud of our "Gill Gang", with over 400 collective years of gardening with Gill's. Combine that with our smart, passionate patrons and that makes for a lot of great gardening discussions and wonderful examples of successful gardening!

## Prep Your Soil

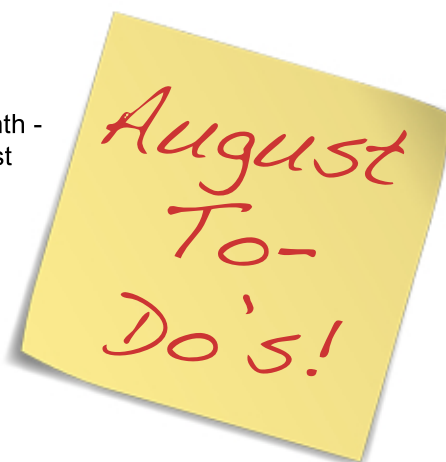
Our shelves are stocked with new garden seeds; tomatoes and peppers will be here mid-month - it's time to prep your beds for fall planting! Add cotton burr compost or Natures Blend compost to your planting areas. Follow that with dry molasses to feed the soil. Finally add a good dose of organic fertilizer and you are ready to plant. The heat is turned up a notch or two so be smart. Wear proper clothes, sunscreen, and drink plenty of water. See to our website for a detailed prep sheet.

## Plant Your Pumpkin Seeds

We love pumpkins for fall. We decorate with them, carve them and eat them. If you want pumpkins for fall, specifically Halloween, plant your pumpkin seeds now. Pumpkins are a vine, so give them room to roam over the garden. Some of the best ones I've seen have grown in rubbish pile of dirt behind our nursery!

## Plant Your Bluebonnet Seeds

Gardening is all about timing with a bit of blessings from nature. Texas bluebonnets depend on the rains in fall to show off their beauty each spring. So August and September are the best months to sow them. Be sure you do not mistakenly pull them as they sprout, thinking they are weeds.



# Zinnias for Fall



Most of us think of zinnias as a summer trooper in the landscape, but by summer's end they are past prime, looking like wilted greens baking in the sun. Dig them up and throw them out. Then plant a garden of profusion zinnias. These are called fall zinnias for their love of warm days and cool nights. Sounds like our fall weather. They are the perfect complement for colors of orange, fire, yellow, apricot, white, and cherry.

We all know August is hot hot hot - so how to stay cool during such scorching days? Invest in some water guns, play in the sprinkler, and install a refreshing, cool fountain or birdbath. You may not be able to dive in, but sounds of water splashing over the edge of an earthen vessel or coursing down a rock waterfall are so relaxing - and the birds will thank you! Here's a few of snaps of water features we've installed over the years.



## Coming Up!



Our favorite organic gardening guru, Andy Chidester, is coming to town Saturday to give a talk at the Botanical Gardens. She represents Ladybug brand out of the Austin area. Don't miss this opportunity to learn from one of the best!

When: Saturday, August 2nd  
10:00am - 12:00pm

Where: Corpus Christi Botanical  
Gardens - 8545 S Staples St.



Last  
Laugh

Confession: we admittedly found ourselves pretty tickled by these little guys. Who knew you could find something so cute to do with those old Trolls hanging out in your closet. Re-purpose them into a fun planter filled with a wild haired succulent or cactus. Gardening is all about having fun! :-)