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Adding Artful Beauty
and Value to your Outdoor Spaces

Around the Garden

Hello all and welcome to another informative newsletter. School holidays are coming to an end for some of you and the kids are settling down to their new schedules (hopefully). For those of you with veggie gardens, now is the time to enjoy the last of your summer harvest. I've enjoyed making Pesto, Baba Ghanoush and Greek Salads all summer long. Here's a delicious [green bean recipe](#) I came across this week!

I like to feature some before and after shots to highlight recent projects. These before photo's show a very plain front yard with no welcoming pathway for



guests.



As you can see in the afters, I created a slightly curved entryway with pavers, tying it into the new paver driveway that helps to break up so much concrete. A planting area was added between the neighbors property to soften and define the new driveway and the front stoop was enlarged and rounded to greet guests comfortably at the front door.



In every newsletter I include the *Garden To Do* list detailing what should be done to keep your garden healthy. Your gardens are a growing evolving entity and it takes some work to keep the soil healthy for optimal plant health. Don't invest and forget. Bringing in soil amendments and fertilizing, when needed, results in a fabulous garden. Feel free to contact me if you would like an update to your gardens or any other advice. Get those hands dirty!



August and September Garden Tips

August To Do

- Apply "Cloud Cover" to Japanese Maples for protection if they are burning up due to drying winds.
- Start feeding Azaleas/Rhododendrons and Camellias with a 0-10-10 fertilizer to stimulate bud set and root growth
- Plant seeds for Sweet Peas now, you'll get a nice bouquet of flowers for the fall.



Video Tip

Garden Planning in Steps

In this month's video, I share with you how I have transformed some of my clients' spaces.

September To Do

- Keep annuals well fed and well watered to maintain health and blooms.
- Don't let your herbs flower. Pinch off any blooms to encourage fresh growth in the foliage, which is the part you want to harvest!

- Feed Fuchsia's w/a 0-10-10 fertilizer and prune to shape if needed.
- Fertilize all your indoor houseplants this month. If you bring some outside for a little "vacation" make sure they are in a shady spot - no afternoon sun!!
- Deep water and fertilize fruit and shade trees.
- Fertilize your Roses. 1 "recipe" is ½ cup 12-12-12 fertilizer, 1/2 cup bone meal, 1/2 cup sulfur, 2 tbs Epsom salts and a sprinkle of chicken fertilizer.
- Deadheading fading blooms in general, this keeps the plants in bloom longer.
- If you plan on a cool-season Vegetable garden, you can start germinating seeds, such as lettuce, peas, radishes, carrots.
- Crape Myrtle trees should be in their full glory now, a great time to select your favorites. They come in varying shades of pinks/purples/white and red's and bloom through the fall season.



Lynda Meikle

Your Garden Coach

Contact: (925) 462-1484

outervisionsdesign.com

Email: outervisions@comcast.net



- If your gardeners have blown most of your mulch away, you may want to renew a 2"-3" layer over your soil this month. This keeps soil cool around the roots, prevents weeds and is good for the long term health of the soil when it does break down. Just remember to keep the mulch from piling up around the crown or trunk of the plants, they need to breathe just like we do!
- Sow seeds now for a winter harvest. Try Collards, Kale or Swiss Chard for something different, other choices are Radishes, Carrots, Broccoli, Cauliflower or many varieties of Lettuce are available in seeds. Get the kids involved!
- Feed Azalea's/Rhododendrons and Camellia's w/a 0-10-10 fertilizer for larger blooms in spring.
- Divide Bearded Iris. Dig up old clumps and divide the rhizomes with a sharp knife. Discard woody centers, trim leaves to 6" and replant in a spot with new amended soil.
- Prune out dead, diseased or damaged limbs from trees and shrubs before winter winds.
- Feed your citrus now to strengthen for cold winter days ahead.
- Cleanup and harvest fruit and vegetable crops.

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