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Garden Happenings

Thrillers, Fillers and Spillers

This month I will share with you some tips on creating fabulous container gardens.

The design concept of Thrillers, Fillers, and Spillers will help you when arranging your pots.

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October Garden Tips From Your Garden Coach

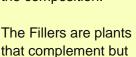
Plant your fall vegetable crop now; such as Broccoli, Kale, Chard, Cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Spinach and Lettuce.

Now is a good time to get your root vegetables established and there are many varieties of seed packets for Carrots, Beets, Onions, etc.

Plant winter annuals for a splash of color; such as Pansies, Primroses, Stock, Snapdragons, Cyclamen and Iceland Poppy.

Buy your bulbs now for a fabulous spring display.
Remember Tulips and
Hyacinths require a 6-8 week chill in the fridge for best production.

The Thrillers are plants that are bold, upright and structural that you place in the center of the container or towards the back, depending on how the container will be viewed. This is your framework and adds drama and verticality to the composition.



not overwhelm your star plant. They fill in the middle ground, adding mass and texture to the overall combination.

The Spillers are the trailing plants that tumble over the edges to soften the sides of the containers.

You should always consider scale when creating your visions. The larger the pot, the taller and bolder you can go. I always think of balancing color, texture and form to create some amazing focal points for your outdoor spaces.



Forcing bulbs for an indoor display is a fun thing to do.
Paperwhites in a low bowl with either sand or pebbles done now will be a fragrant, white display in 6 weeks.

Try growing Onion, Garlic or Shallots from sets now from your local nursery.....they need a rich, well drained soil for a winter into spring crop. Dr Oz just mentioned this week how good onions are for us to eat, cooked or raw!

Planting trees, shrubs, perennials and ground covers in the fall ensures some strong root growth with winter rains and some healthy plants by next spring.

Also by selecting fall color trees this month; you get to select the exact fall color for your taste and design.

Toividing crowded perennials will help produce healthier plants before winter rains.

Feed your azaleas, rhododendrons and camellias with a fertilizer, ratio 0-10-10, for bigger blooms in winter/spring.

Feed your lawn monthly with a fall/winter fertilizer.

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

Adding these creations on the patios, decks, balconies and even tucked into the planting beds at critical spots

that may need a splash of interest, can liven up a dreary view.

This concept should not be limited to containers but to the planting beds as well. Previously I have talked about adding layers in the garden, the same ideas of Thrillers, Fillers, Spillers relate to the overall garden also.



So don't be timid in the selection of your container gardens, go bold, get creative and have fun....or call me!!

October Video Tip

Thrillers, Fillers and Spillers Container gardening can be fun. This video shows you how to use leveling in creating a great garden pot.

My Youtube Channel: <u>lyndayourgardencoach</u>

want to harvest!

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!

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.

rune 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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