

TGC Horticulture Report

March 2023

The last couple of weeks feel like summer has already arrived. What a great time to be in the garden. The oaks are shedding their leaves, rake them and add to the compost pile or use them for mulch in flower beds, as they break down they add nutrients to the soil.

The days are getting longer, and daylight savings time begins on the 12th. We can now water two times a week. Odd number addresses water on Wednesday and Saturday and even numbers on Thursday and Sunday. Remember to water only when needed and not between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

It is time to fertilize Citrus and Avocado trees and Azaleas with slow-release fertilizer. If azaleas need trimming, do it soon after they finish blooming.

Now is a good time to renew the mulch in the flower beds and around shrubs to help control the weeds and retain moisture.

It is a good time to add flowering trees to the landscape and some that do well in this area are Tabebuia, Yellow Elder, Crape Myrtle and Fringetree.

Begin to spruce up the flower beds with warm season annuals such as impatiens, marigolds, cosmos, gaillardia and zinnia.

Herbs make great container plants, why not try growing basil, chives, dill or rosemary in a pot. Warm season vegetables to plant this month are beans, carrots, cucumbers, radishes, squash and tomatoes.

To add summer color to shady areas try planting some caladium bulbs, they come in a wide variety of leaf colors and add interest to shady areas.

When working in the garden be sure to stay hydrated, protect yourself from the sun and take some time to sit a while and listen to the birds and watch the butterflies.

Presented by Cathy Spencer