

August



Butterflies & Fall Flowers



Feed Vegetables & Flowers



Mulch Your Plants

- **Have your indoor plants grown** too large for their pots? Repot now to acclimate them through the fall.
- **Plan your fall vegetable garden!** Broccoli, cabbage, lettuce, celery, kale, collards, peas, and chard can be planted now in the West Bay. Wait until September in the East Bay.
- **Select and plant fall** blooming perennials: asters, Rudbeckia, Japanese anemone, and salvia.
- **Don't forget to feed** vegetables and flowers with a steady-release fertilizer such as E.B. Stone Organics All Purpose Plant Food.
- **Support** all tall and vining vegetables with cages, stakes, or trellises to avoid crop loss.
- **Summer-prune** fruit trees to control height, maintain shape and eliminate suckers. Stop by Sloat Garden Center for a good pair of high quality loppers or gloves.
- **Choose drought tolerant plants** that attract butterflies! We have a large selection in our stores. Remember to plant some for nectar like lantana (adults) and some for feeding like native milkweed, Ceanothus, Buckwheat, or dill (caterpillars).
- **Feed container plantings** with Maxsea.
- **Replace** spent annuals with something new to keep them fresh. Company's coming!
- **Mulch vegetables and flower** beds now to conserve moisture. Use Hydretain on lawns, beds, and in containers to reduce your need to water.
- **Check your mature plants** to be sure they are not water-stressed. Your 30+ year old plants are valuable!
- **Check** Brugmansia, Lantana, Tomato, and Verbena for whitefly. Put out yellow sticky traps to monitor. Use organic Rosemary Systemic 209 to control.
- **Remove runners from strawberries** to promote buds for next year, and to have a stronger mother plant. Then, plant rooted runners.
- **Plan out your vegetable** garden for crop rotation to avoid re-planting the same types of plants in the same area two seasons in a row.
- **Be proactive** about insects. To reduce the number of flies: remove pet waste and fallen fruit from the ground. For fleas: use nematodes in outside breeding areas.
- **Time to cut back tropical milkweed** (*Asclepias curassavica*) in your garden to encourage Monarch migration. Cut plants back to 6" and strip foliage.

