

Garden Notes

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Goldenrod

Even before the internet, goldenrod, *Solidago* sp., was a victim of misinformation. So many people suffer from Fall allergies and because goldenrod is so noticeable with its brilliant yellow blooms, it was labeled the cause. The real culprit is often the wind pollinated plant Ragweed. When in bloom in early Fall, the native goldenrod attracts numerous pollinators. It will die back with cold weather but returns each spring. There are many species and selections that would make beautiful landscape plants, but most are not available in nurseries. Enjoy what pops up in your landscape.

Fall Lawn Care

Lawn care activities are slowing down. No fertilizer is needed until at least mid April of next year. If you want to manage winter weeds with a pre emergent herbicide, apply one when nighttime temps are 55-60 degrees F for several days. Continue to water only when the turf shows signs of drought stress.



Grow Your Own Garlic

Local nurseries should carry a selection of soft-necked garlic which is suitable to our climate. Plant cloves in Fall or early winter and provide water as the soil begins to dry. After the leaves die back in mid Spring, harvest your garlic. Allow the bulbs to dry a few days before use or storage.

