



*Ken Lain is the owner of Watters Garden Center in Prescott, certified nursery professional, master gardener and has gardened extensively throughout Yavapai County.*

I am in Portland, Oregon as of this garden column deadline roaming the countryside in search of the very best conifers in the growers fields. These Colorado Spruce, Austrian Pines, Alberta spruce and Scotch pine arrive within weeks and the garden center becomes clogged if summer plants are still at the garden center. Other garden centers in the county are doing the same thing.

September is the month the garden center changes out their inventory from the spring & summer blooming trees and shrubs, and convert to fall colored trees and shrubs and winter evergreens.

This is a great time to scoop up bargains for the landscape. Watch for the sale announcements; at my garden center I call it the "Monster Monsoon Sale". We all want to clear out summer inventories.

This is a great time to plant. The soil is warm and the air perfect for pushing new growth on new landscape plants. These new plants will need to be watered twice a week through October and then twice a month through winter.

Watch for spittle bug and powdery mildew in the landscape this month. If you see anything unusual in the landscape it's highly recommended to bring a sample in for diagnosis. Problems grow out of control within days this time of year.

This is the month to plant winter vegetables like broccoli, cauliflower and lettuce.

If you like these garden tips sign up for 'My Personal Gardener Newsletter' through my web site at [wattersonline.com](http://wattersonline.com), for weekly garden advice that is sure to make you a better gardener. You can also visit me at Watters Garden Center, 1815 Iron Springs Road.

Until next month, see you at the garden center.



***Butterfly Bush with butterfly***

## **September Garden "To-Do"s**

- \*Scoop up bargains from Monster Monsoon Sales and inventory clearance sales from nursery*
- \*Plant winter vegetables like broccoli, lettuce and cauliflower.*
- \*Keep weeds at bay with Killzall weed killer.*
- \*Time to plant mums, pansy, violas and kale's for winter long color.*

## **Pest to watch for...**

- \*Grasshoppers can be bad this month. Also watch for spider mites on conifers.*
- \*Dead tips on cypress indicate tip borer.*
- \*White leaves are bad and suggest powdery mildew.*

## **Plants in bloom & looking good**

- \*Crepe Myrtle in colors of red, pink and whites*
- \*Butterfly bush*
- \*Blue mist spirea & Russian sage*
- \*Cherry sage salvia*
- \*Echinacea and Coreopsis*

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