



Maryland Golden Asters (*Chrysopsis mariana*) shine brightly, even on a damp and dreary Equinox. These drought-tolerant wonders are happy in sun or part shade.

## Happy First Day of Autumn!

To gardeners, Fall isn't just the changing of the seasons. It's also the season for change. After observing our gardens all summer, we've learned which plants are well-situated and thriving, as well as those that might be happier in a different spot.

Fall's the best time to transplant in our area, and it is also ideal for adding new plants. Our mild winters enable plants' roots to establish before the rapid top growth of spring kicks in. Fall installations might need supplemental watering during a dry spell till established, but typically require less irrigation than spring plantings.

Gardening teaches us to adapt to changing conditions. The loss of three canopy trees in our front yard this year will require a complete overhaul of several plantings created and tweaked over decades.

As John and I have learned during our years at Swiftbrook, initial reluctance and sadness over losing an original vision, soon gives way to enthusiasm for new opportunities. I may have to transplant my Sacred Lilies (*Rohdea japonica*), but I finally have a sunny spot for the Rattlesnake Master (*Eryngium yuccifolium*) that's languishing in too much shade.

Gardener by Nature is also undergoing change this fall. John officially retired September 1. After 13 years of making gardens for others, he'll be focusing his talents on Swiftbrook. John's plans also include more time to study jazz clarinet and to pursue his goal of becoming "a real gone cat."

The company will again be a "one-woman business" focused on clients who want to create sustainable home landscapes and native plant habitats. We hope to see you on our September 26 Open Day.

—Dale

## Upcoming Events

September 25 9:00 am – 3 pm Chapel Hill, NC	NC Botanical Garden Plant Sale <a href="https://ncbg.unc.edu/">https://ncbg.unc.edu/</a> (Members night, September 24)
September 26 2:00 – 6:00 pm Raleigh, NC	Swiftbrook Gardens Open Day <a href="https://gardenerbynature.com">https://gardenerbynature.com</a>
October 9 9:00 am – noon Raleigh, NC	Reid Garden Workday <a href="#">NC Native Plant Society</a>
October 20 Questers Gathering Chapel Hill, NC	Presentation Gardening with Native Plants
November 13 9:00 am – noon Raleigh, NC	Reid Garden Workday <a href="#">NC Native Plant Society</a>

## Triangle Gardener is now online!



You'll still find print copies at Garden Centers and other locations throughout the area, but you can now read *Triangle Gardener* magazine online. I write about dwarf native shrubs in the September/October issue.

Search archived stories by myself and other local gardeners, read the current issue, or learn where to pick up a free print copy at the magazine's website:

<https://www.trianglegardener.com>