



August

Your Northwest guide

GARDEN WE LOVE YEAR-ROUND BEAUTY

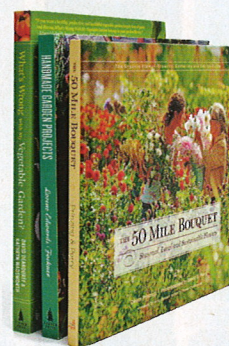
With plantings as lush as these, you'd never miss the lawn that once covered this Roseville, California, backyard (above). Landscape designer Roberta Walker packed the beds

with colorful textural and blooming perennials including silvery *Artemisia* 'Powis Castle', chartreuse *Coleonema* 'Sunset Gold', white-striped 'Cosmopolitan' eulalia grass, lavender, pale blue-flowered plumbago, structured 'Thunderhead' pine, and wispy Mexican weeping

bamboo. The best part? These showy plants need minimal water and practically no maintenance. "You can relax in your garden and really enjoy it," Roberta says.

—JULIE CHAI

DESIGN Roberta Walker Landscape Design (www.robertawalker.com)



MUST-HAVES SUMMER READING

Learn all about the farmers and florists behind the local-flower movement in *The 50 Mile Bouquet* (St. Lynn's Press, 2012; \$18) by Debra Prinzing and David E. Perry; customize your backyard with DIY creations using Lorene Edwards Forkner's *Handmade Garden Projects* (Timber Press, 2011; \$20); and find organic solutions for problems you're having with your crops in *What's Wrong with My Vegetable Garden?* (Timber Press, 2011; \$25) by David Deardorff and Kathryn Wadsworth.

What zone are you?



To-do list

☐ For color in a sunny spot, try compact *Echinacea purpurea* 'Sombrero Hot Pink', which tops out at just 21 inches.

☐ When you plant cool-season vegetables this month, include two new kale hybrids: 'Petit Posy' resembles brussels sprouts but has kale florets instead of sprouts, and 'Purple Peacock' produces broccoli heads and kalelike leaves.

☐ Hoe weeds before they go to seed and replicate themselves.

☐ Keep caterpillars from eating your crops by applying *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) in the late afternoon or under cloudy weather (it breaks down in sunshine). It won't harm beneficial insects.

☐ Keep harvesting your edibles. Frequent picking discourages rot and encourages continued production.

☐ For a large bulb selection, order from B&D Lilies (bdlilies.com) and Brent and Becky's Bulbs (brentandbeckysbulbs.com).
—JIM McCAUSLAND



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