Finally Fall! Planting and Pruning Time!

If you are done with the heat of summer, fall is just around the corner. Cooler temperatures offer a great opportunity to gardeners. Fall is the best season to plant trees around your landscape, and it is the best season for vegetable gardens in El Paso. Why? Our fall temperatures are warm with little chance of frost, and we still have many sunshine hours to help vegetables grow. Fall is also the best time to start cleaning up the yard. Once trees lose their leaves, it is the best time to prune. Let us look at some fall tips for the yard to get ready for winter and to save water.

Spotlight: Chinese Pistache (Pistacia chinensis)

A great double duty tree for El Paso is the Chinese Pistache, this deciduous tree not only provides most needed shade in the summer, but it pops with striking fall color ranging from red to orange in the fall.

Description

- Deciduous tree with rounded crown 40’ x 35’
- Leaves have 10-16 leaflets
- Striking fall coloring arrives in shades of reds and orange
- Dense shade tree
- Red fruit on female trees
- Native to China and the Philippines

Photo courtesy: elpasodesertblooms.org.