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Gear up the garden and grill for Labor Day with tasty tips and tricks from Pike Nurseries!

Garden experts give fresh ideas to celebrate the sizzling holiday

ATLANTA (August 26, 2016) – Fire up the grill, and prepare for celebration because Labor Day is right around the corner! As the unofficial grilling holiday heads into town, the experts at Pike Nurseries are offering tasty tips and tricks for garden-to-grill goodness during team tailgates and other grand gatherings. Whether recipes call for homegrown vegetables, juicy fruits or savory herbs, grill masters of all levels can ignite their skills and score big with friends and family during the patriotic weekend.

Growing a Garden

With fall fast approaching, now is the perfect time to **plant container gardens with essential herbs** like sage, oregano, mint, thyme and rosemary. Keep these on the patio near the grill or close to the kitchen to harvest at peak freshness and incorporate their rich flavors into recipes like [citrus-brined pork roast with chipotle mustard peach glaze](#), [grilled cherry balsamic brie](#) and [mustard aioli-grilled potatoes with fines herbs](#).

For grill masters looking to add more green to Labor Day meals or early fall spreads, summer planted vegetables like tomatoes, peppers and squash should be harvested in the next few weeks to maintain freshness. After these are gathered and prepped for plates, green thumb enthusiasts can continue to play in the dirt by **planting a fall garden** filled with delicious edibles like lettuce, kale, spinach and cabbage for future feasts.

Garden-to-Grilling

Whether it's a game day get-together or end-of-summer soiree, utilizing the right tools is the key to mastering culinary success. Pike Nurseries offers **premium grills**. The versatile Kamado Joe ceramic grill functions as a grill, smoker and oven combined. The compact, portable Kamado Joe Jr. lets grillers rule the tailgate party and other outdoor outings with the same versatility of the classic Joe. The stainless steel Saber Grill with infrared technology locks in flavorful juices. Both Kamado Joe and Saber are perfect for homeowners looking to liven up Labor Day recipes with bold, fiery flavors.

For grill masters wishing to take their chef skills to the next level, **bundle fresh herbs to create a natural basting brush** to impress guests and incorporate garden-to-grill goodness in any dish. Start with sturdy, flavorful herbs such as rosemary, thyme, oregano and sage, and cut each stem 5-6 inches long. From there, strip the leaves from the lower ¼ of the branches and [bundle them together by tying twine around the end](#). Once tied, dip the bundle in a sauce of choice and generously coat the meat while it cooks to perfection. When finished, top with grilled vegetables or succulent fruit to add delicious flavors that are perfect for every palate.

Garden Décor

No Labor Day party or game day gathering is complete without festive décor! Pike Nurseries makes it easy to entertain, offering a variety of inspiration for DIY container gardens, colorful pottery and more outdoor accents that will make any space sparkle. **Add pops of red, white and blue** into pre-existing containers to easily spruce up plants for patriotic celebrations or **incorporate favorite sports team colors** for any tailgate. For guests looking for a great hostess gift, **pre-planted gardens** are the perfect way to give thanks, as they will continue to flourish all year round.

For more information on how to liven up Labor Day with delicious garden-to-grill recipes, tasty tips and beautiful décor, visit www.pikenursery.com/pages/grilling-guide or stop by one of the 16 Pike Nurseries store locations to speak with a garden expert.

ABOUT PIKE NURSERIES

Ever committed to its customers' gardening success, Pike Nurseries takes pride in taking the guesswork out of gardening. Offering superior knowledge, quality and selection in a friendly, caring environment, Pike Nurseries has been an Atlanta icon for over 50 years. Founded in 1958 by Pete Pike, its ability to adapt to market conditions and community needs has made it a respected Southern institution. As Atlanta's oldest garden chain, Pike Nurseries has 16 retail locations in the Atlanta, Ga., and Charlotte, N.C. areas. Now led by CEO Mike Kunce, Pike Nurseries looks forward to continued growth as it keeps Atlanta and Charlotte beautiful, one landscape at a time.

For more information, visit Pike Nurseries online at www.pikenursery.com.

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