



Fall in the Garden

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PLANTING, TRANSPLANTING & DIVIDING

1. Planting - Root development vs green growth, Temperatures, Moisture, Evergreens (plant until mid-end Oct. size dependent) vs. Deciduous (can plant until ground freezes)
2. Transplanting - Fall Hazards, Prep by root pruning in fall
3. Dividing Perennials - Spring blooming in fall; fall blooming in spring (Iris, Peony)

WATERING

1. Newly planted trees & shrubs, especially evergreens (larger B&B's)
2. Established plants - reduce water in fall (Sept. 1) to harden off; water deeply after leaves drop

BULB PLANTING & STORAGE

1. Planting bulbs, peonies, and other roots
2. Dig up tender bulbs for storage

PERENNIAL GARDENS

1. Cut back unsightly plants
2. Leave grasses, any interesting seed heads, food for birds, structure for insects to overwinter

LAWN

1. Fertilize - fall is most important
2. Mow - short to help prevent diseases
3. Leaves - mow leaves if blade will cut them small enough

VEGETABLE GARDEN

1. Cleanup weeds to discourage overwintering pests & compost spent plants if not diseased
2. Add organic matter
3. Plant garlic; leave a few biennials, like carrots, if you want seed production

WINTER PROTECTION

1. Protect trunks with tree guards
2. Fence young trees in heavily browsed areas
3. Tree wrap to prevent sunscald-esp. Lindens, Maples
4. Voles - cleanup debris, cut native grass areas

MULCHING

1. Add extra mulch to new perennials, marginal plants & sensitive roses
2. Fallen leaves make great mulch (fungus)
3. Don't mulch against tree trunks

FLOWER CONTAINERS

Make sure to winterize containers susceptible to cracking during the winter by storing them in your garage or cleaning them out and storing them outside, turned upside down.

Transition your containers to fall by adding mums, sedums, grasses, interesting branches and seed pods that will handle the cooler temperatures of autumn. Winter containers can be installed in late fall. Evergreen boughs, branches, grasses, pinecones, berries, rose hips and assortment of other decorations can be arranged to give you interest through the winter.

SPRING PLANNING

- Accessing current structure w/o foliage; additions/changes to to made next season

WATER FEATURES

- Winterize or heater to keep the water moving

Most perennials can just be cut back, BUT there are always exceptions...

****Ask about our Japanese saws we use to cut down all grasses and perennials****

LEAVE FOR WINTER - SPRING CLEANUP IF NEEDED

- Hellebores, Yucca, Dianthus, Creeping Phlox, Rabbitbrush, other groundcovers

CUT DOWN EARLY FALL OR WAIT UNTIL SPRING

These perennials tend to get mushy after a hard frost and are difficult to deal with. It is best to cut them early, or wait until spring when the stems have broken down enough to allow for a quick cleanup.

- Daylilies, Iris (3-4”), Bishop’s Weed, Hosta

GRASSES

- Cut Rounded: Fescues, Deschampsia, Blue Oat, Dropseed, Carex
- Cut Vertical: Karl Foerster, Bluestem, Miscanthus, Switchgrass

VINES

In our climate it is best to leave most vines through the winter and cut out any dead parts in the spring. Many vines will grow from the previous seasons stems.

- Hops: Cut down in fall or early spring, these grow from the ground every season.
- Clematis: 3 pruning groups

SEMI-WOODY

- Russian Sage & Caryopteris (Bluebeard): Light cutting in spring
- Lavender: Only cut off flowers in fall; late to start growing in spring

OTHER TIPS

- Remember to deadhead any that are problem reseederers
- Cut foliage to ground mid season if needed