

Fall Gardening Checklist

By Jake R Brady

☐ September

- ☐ Water plants less as temperatures start to dwindle.
- ☐ Pick herbs to freeze and/or dry.
- ☐ Cover water features with netting to collect falling leaves.
- ☐ Bring summer houseplants back indoors for the cooler months.
- ☐ Plant trees and shrubs.
- ☐ Keep planted trees and shrubs well-watered after planting.
- ☐ Plan your spring bulb garden.
- ☐ Prepare soil beds and plant Spring-flowering bulbs.
- ☐ Clean bird feeders.
- ☐ Put tools, hoses, and portable sprinkler systems in storage.
- ☐ One last weeding will help to improve the appearance of your garden.
- ☐ Fertilize your lawn.
- ☐ Reap the harvest of the vegetables and herbs still in your garden - preserve, puree, can or freeze.

☐ October

- ☐ Transplant shrubs or young trees to new locations.
- ☐ Cut back flowers that have stopped blooming and/or stop deadheading seed heads early Fall.
- ☐ Prune any diseased or stressed tree/shrub limbs.
- ☐ Rake and compost any fallen leaves, fruit and dried brush.
- ☐ Remove dead annuals from the garden.
- ☐ Continue watering trees and shrubs until the ground freezes.
- ☐ Dispose of any diseased or infested plant debris to avoid re-entry of the problem in the Spring.
- ☐ Take cuttings, if desired, to winter indoors.
- ☐ Outside, spray all plants gently with water to dislodge any unwanted pests.

☐ November

- ☐ Divide perennials and transplant newly divided bulbs.
- ☐ Mulch rose bushes.

- ☐ Clean fallen leaves in downspouts and gutters.
- ☐ Burlap wrap any plants that would benefit before heavy frosts begin.
- ☐ Assess which plants and shrubs have done well in your gardens and which have not.
- ☐ Watch for frost warnings; protect/cover plants and vegetables as needed.