

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.