

# November Gardening Calendar

## Ornamentals

- **Weeks 1-4:** Now is the ideal time to plant trees and shrubs. Before digging the hole, prepare the site by loosening the soil well beyond the drip line of each plant. Plant trees and shrubs at the depth they grew in the nursery and not deeper. Remove all wires, ropes and non-biodegradable materials from roots before back filling. Apply a 2-3 inch mulch layer, but stay several inches away from the trunk. Keep the soil moist, not wet, to the depth of the roots.
- **Week 1:** Now is a good time to observe and choose nursery stock based on fall foliage interest.
- **Week 1:** Plant tulips now.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Mums can be cut back to within several inches of the ground once flowering ends. After the ground freezes, apply a 2 to 3 inch layer of loose mulch such as pine needles, straw or leaves.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Roses should be winterized after a heavy frost. Place a 6 to 10-inch deep layer of mulch over each plant. Top soil works best. Prune sparingly, just enough to shorten overly long canes. Climbers should not be pruned at this time.
- **Week 3-4:** Covering garden pools with bird netting will prevent leaves from fouling the water. Oxygen depletion from rotting organic matter can cause winter kill of pond fish.

## Vegetables

- **Weeks 1-4:** Fall tilling the vegetable garden exposes many insect pests to winter cold, reducing their numbers in next years garden.
- **Weeks 1-4:** Any unused, finished compost is best tilled under to improve garden soils.
- **Weeks 1-4:** To prevent insects or diseases from over-wintering in the garden, remove and compost all plant debris.
- **Weeks 1-3:** Overcrowded or unproductive rhubarb plants can be divided now.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Root crops such as carrots, radishes, turnips and Jerusalem artichokes store well outdoors in the ground. Just before the ground freezes, bury these crops under a deep layer of leaves or straw. Harvest as needed during winter by pulling back this protective mulch.
- **Week 4:** Thanksgiving - Weave a holiday wreath of garlic, onions, chili peppers and herbs. It will make a gourmet gift for a lucky friend.

## Fruit

- **Weeks 1-4:** Keep mulches pulled back several inches from the base of fruit trees to prevent bark injury from hungry mice and other rodents.
- **Week 1:** Harvest pecans when they start to drop from trees. Shake nuts onto tarps laid on the ground.
- **Week 1:** Fallen, spoiled or mummified fruits should be cleaned up from the garden and destroyed by burying.
- **Weeks 3-4:** A dilute whitewash made from equal parts interior white latex paints and water, applied to the southwest side of young fruit trees will prevent winter sun scald injury.
- **Weeks 3-4:** Mulch strawberries for winter with straw. This should be done after several nights near 20 degrees, but before temperatures drop into the teens. Apply straw loosely, but thick enough to hide plants from view.

## Miscellaneous

- **Weeks 1-4:** To prevent injury to turf grasses, keep leaves raked up off of the lawn.
- **Weeks 1-4:** A final fall application of fertilizer can be applied to bluegrass and fescue lawns now.
- **Weeks 2-4:** Clean house gutters of leaves and fallen debris before cold wet weather sets in.
- **Weeks 1-4:** Set up bird feeders. Birds appreciate a source of unfrozen drinking water during the winter.
- **Weeks 3-4:** For Cyclamen to bloom well indoors, they need cool temperatures in the 50-60 degree range, bright light, evenly moist soils, and regular fertilization.