

November

- Take a walk through your garden and take time to reflect on your successes and failures. Make notes in your gardening notebook for new things to try, and things to fix next spring.
- Add pine needle mulch to rock garden to reduce erosion, conserve soil moisture, provide hummus and protect plants from winter heaving.
- A November application of fertilizer is very beneficial to a lawn of cool-season grasses. It promotes root development without excessive top growth.
- Keep the compost heap moist to aid in the decay process. Turn the pile to mix in all late, fall additions. Add fertilizer residues from nearly empty bags onto the pile and mix.
- Fill the bird feeders.
- Some plants are very sensitive to de-icing salts. Try using sand or sawdust on walkways.
- After Chrysanthemums are through flowering, remove the stalks down to within inches of the ground.
- After Chrysanthemums are killed by frost, cut them down in preparation for winter. Apply 2-3 in layer of loose mulch after the ground has frozen.
- Prepare a trench and sow sweet peas in late fall for seeds to lie dormant for spring germination.
- Reduce peony botrytis blight and hollyhock rust by removing and disposing of all old stems. Do not compost.
- Winterize your mower.
- In preparation for storage, hoses and sprinklers should be drained and lubricated. Replace washers where needed.
- Clean, oil, sharpen and mend all hand tools.
- Continuing deep watering of evergreens until freezing weather occurs.
- Cut away suckers from the base of lilacs, forsythia and crape myrtle.
- If Roses are to be planted, do so before the ground freezes and water thoroughly.
- Fertilize wisteria after leaves have fallen to avoid excess top growth and lack of bloom.
- Protect the roots of azaleas and rhododendrons with a heavy mulch of organic materials, such as oak leaves, wood chips or pine needles.
- If there is any evidence of scale on trees and shrubs, spray with dormant oil in late fall and again in spring.