



Through the
Garden
Gate

September Gardening Tips and Reminders

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In your garden

The Fall season is a great time to plant trees, shrubs, bulbs, perennials, grass seed and sod. Plants that are planted in the fall enjoy cooler temperatures and ideal growing conditions that allow roots ample time to grow into the surrounding soil.

Plants and trees that provide vibrant color in the month of September include: crape myrtles, viburnums, hypericum, hydrangeas, pyracantha and butterfly bush.

There are numerous perennials that can add interest to your landscaping this month including a wide variety of ornamental grasses.

Add a touch of fall to your landscape by planting hardy mums now.

Do not prune azaleas, rhododendrons and other spring flowering shrubs because they have already set their buds for next year's blooms. Pruning now will sacrifice next spring's flowers.

Transplant peonies or divide them to multiply plants.

Lawns

September is the best month of the entire year to seed your lawn. This includes both seeding a new lawn and reseeding (overseeding) an established lawn to make it thicker and healthier.

If you need to, you can lime, fertilize and seed your lawn all in the same day. Otherwise, seed and fertilize the same day and then lime later in the fall.

If needed, fall is a great time to aerate and/or dethatch the lawn. If you decide to do one or both of these, they should be done prior to seeding.

If you do plan to aerate, dethatch or rototill (for total renovation), thoroughly soak the soil a day or two before you start your project or perform your project a day or two after a good rain.

September is also a good time to apply a grub control to your lawn

Fruit and Vegetable Gardens

Time to continue with fall crops. You can still seed beets, radishes, turnips, and leaf lettuce.

Deer repellent can be used on fruits and vegetables.

Spray fall crops to protect them from cabbageworms.

Houseplants

Time to bring houseplants back indoors. If needed, spray them first with insect killers. You can dust the soil with insecticide granules to prevent bringing in ants, wireworms, sow bugs, etc.

Repot plants if necessary and add potting mix to enjoy healthier plants through to Spring.

Fertilize your houseplants through November, and then stop feeding them until February.

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