

OCTOBER GARDEN TIPS

Time to finish planting your spring flowering bulbs. Tulips may be planted as late as November, but everything else should be done this month.



Fall is an excellent time to add ornamental grasses, trees, shrubs, and perennials to your landscape.

Likewise the perfect time for lawn care - aeration, seeding, fertilization.

Adding compost in the fall is much more beneficial than waiting until the spring.

Hopefully most of your house plants have been brought in already. Mother Nature has been very fickle this year bringing us cooler temperatures earlier than usual, along with all her other quirks. If you have a cool place for winter plant storage - such as a garage or unheated closed in porch - hardier plants can be wintered over there, and you still have some time to get them inside.

Don't fertilize houseplants that will go dormant over the winter.

Mulch can help some of your more tender plants make it through the winter by protecting them from freezing temps.

Why not add pansies and winter cabbages to your gardens for some fall color. Planting pansies now will provide hardier and more beautiful plants in the spring. Yes, they will even keep blooming under snow!



Last, but not least, don't forget to collect seeds before cutting down your cypress, back-eyed Susan, and hyacinth bean vines. In all cases, wait until the pods are brown and dry before harvesting. No special treatment required for any of them. Put them in baggies and put them in a drawer somewhere - just don't forget where come spring!

Until next thyme, Gwen