

Flowers:

- Ornamental cabbage and kale can replace tired summer flowers. The nights are cool enough to force these ornamental plants to start changing their color.
- After first frost, dig up elephant's ears and caladium bulbs and store these bulbs in a dry, paper box or bag, in a warm place (65-70°F). Do not store these bulbs in plastic bags.
- Bring gardenia and citrus plants indoors before it gets too cold. Keep the gardenias' soil slightly moist, and keep the citrus plants' soil on the dry side. Use [Seamate](#) every time you water and use vinegar (1 tablespoon per quart of water mixed with the [Seamate](#)) every fourth watering. Keep both of these plants in a well lit location.
- Tulips and other Dutch flower bulbs can be planted now. After planting the bulbs feed them with plant trust flower and bulb formula. (Do not use bonemeal for spring flower bulbs)
- Feed existing Daffodil clumps and newly planted Daffodils with Garden Trust Fertilizer.

Lawn:

- Japanese stilt grass can be killed by applying [Bayer Bermuda Grass Control](#) without harming your lawn. Japanese stilt grass and crabgrass can be prevented by applying a spring application of [Dimension](#).
- Winter/spring weeds (henbit, shepard spurge, and chickweed) in the lawn have now germinated. If you have not seeded, apply [Speedzone](#) weed killer now.
- Do not allow baby grass to grow too tall. Mow existing and new grass as needed. Cut the grass to make it 1/3 shorter. The mowing height currently should be about 2 1/2-3". Make sure your lawn mower blades are sharp. Dull blades hurt young grass plants. Now is a great time to replace the lawn mower's blades.
- Continue to mow your grass without bagging the clippings. The soil temperature is still warm enough for the cut grass to decay and turn into nourishment for your lawn.
- Skunks are destroying lawns now looking for white grubs. The only useful method this time of year to kill white grubs is to apply Dylox and be sure to water it in after application.
- Be sure to keep up will falling leaves on the lawn. It is not to late for a fall application of [Turf Trust fertilizer and Kick Start](#).

Maintenance:

- Concrete, pool surroundings, patios, natural stone, roofs, siding, tennis courts, and outside stored marine craft can be treated with [Wet and Forget](#) to remove moss, mold, mildew, and algae stains. You can also use [Wet and Forget](#) to prevent the moss, mold, mildew, and algae from forming.
- To keep Mice from entering your garage, RV, sheds, or stored boats use [mouse magic](#).

Fall planting:

- Plant all potted hardy plants such as evergreens, roses, trees, perennials, roses, and shrubs. Do not store these plants outside throughout the winter because the roots will freeze. Now is the time to plant them. Plant these plants in a mixture of soil and *Sphagnum peat moss*. Then water the plant with [Kickstart](#) to promote exceptional root growth throughout the fall.
- Perennials, trees, and shrubs planted in October will outperform spring planted hardy plants.

Amaryllis:

- Now is the time to shop for Dutch amaryllis. The best blooming amaryllis to buy are Orange Sovereign, Prince Carnival, Apple Blossom, Christmas Gift, and Susan. When planting a Dutch amaryllis, use a pot approximately 2" larger than the bulb. Use *Monrovia potting soil*, and water with luke warm water one time after potting. Keep the potted amaryllis in a warm place. Light is not important right after potting, but heat is.

October 23, 2015

- After the amaryllis' flower stem is 5" tall, resume watering the amaryllis. Every time you water the amaryllis, feed with [Seamate](#). Use an [electronic moisture meter](#) to determine when to water the amaryllis. If you do not use a moisture meter, you will probably over water the plant because the watering needs to be done based on the moisture near the roots. The moisture at the top of the soil is a poor indicator of the root moisture.
- When the flower stem is 5" tall, it needs to be moved to a cooler, well lit place to display and enjoy your amaryllis' bloom.
- Dutch Amaryllis summered outside need to be cut back and the bulb needs to be dried out for 7 days in a warm (80 degree) place. Then after the 7 days moved to a place that is 45-50 degrees for 6 weeks before repotting. (when potting follow the above instructions on potting)