

Deer:

- Oak trees yielded a large crop of acorns this Fall. Deer depend on acorns as their main food source. If you rake up the acorns, the acorn shortage will cause the deer to look for alternative food source . They will most likely choose your plants to be that food source. If you want to feed the deer make a pile of the acorns AWAY from any desired plants you have.
- 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.

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 *Bacto Sphagnum Peatmoss*. Then water the plant with [Kickstart](#) to promote exceptional root growth throughout the fall.

Broadleaf Evergreens

- In late fall, protect broadleaf evergreens against winter burn with Rockland winter shield. Apply WinterShield on a day when the weather is dry and daytime temps will be over 40 degrees.

Trees:

- Remember deciduous trees and shrubs that drop their leaves in the fall should be fed with [Plant Trust Professional Tree and Shrub Fertilizer](#) one time in October/November, preferably as soon as possible. For pear trees, use 1/2 ounce of *Plant Trust* for every foot of the height of the tree. For apple trees, use 1 ounce of *Plant Trust* for every foot of the height of the tree. For the remaining fruit , shade, flowering trees, and shrubs use 2 ounces of *Plant Trust* for every foot of the height of the plants. Remember these trees and shrubs only need to be fed *Plant Trust* one time a year.

House Plants:

- Scale on potted palms and weeping figs can easily be controlled by using [Bonide Systemic House Plant Insect Control](#). Also, use *Seamate* every time you water these house plants. Keep these plants in an indoor location that is well lit during the winter. Keep the soil slightly dry. Use an [electronic moisture meter](#) to determine when to water these plants. 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.
- Continue to feed holiday cactus with *Seamate* every time you water. Keep holiday cactus in a well lit cooler location. They need to be in 5-7 nights in temps between 50-55 degrees to bloom this season.
- Tropical hibiscus can now be indoors. Do not wait for the first frost to bring these plants inside. If you want this plant to continue to bloom, then keep them in a bright sunny location . Remember to use [Seamate](#) every time you water.

Lawn:

October 24, 2014

- Wild garlic and onions emerging in your lawn can be eliminated by applying [Bonide weedbeater Ultra or Speedzone RTU](#); this product will not harm your grass.
- Do not let young grass grow too tall. When the baby grass reaches 4" in height cut the grass to be 1/3 shorter.
- Do not worry about weeds that are growing up in your newly seeded lawn. Wait until after the second mowing to eradicate the weeds. At that time you can use [Speedzone](#).
- If you have not yet made an application of [Kick Start](#) on your young grass, do so now to maximize the new grass' root development.
- Remove excess leaves from the lawn if they have started to come down and easy method is using the [leaf loader](#) to help in the removal.
- If you have no time to renovate the lawn, The best thing you can do at this time is to feed the lawn with turf trust.

Edible Garden:

- Red rhubarb and green swiss chard that was planted in early September can now be harvested every 2-3 weeks.

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