September

Plants in Flower

- Crapemyrtle, rose-of-sharon, sasanqua camellia, japonica camellia, dahlia, canna, ginger lily, chrysanthemum, spider lily, fall crocus, liriope, sedum and summer annuals

Fertilizing

- NONE - See what's happening in Lawn Care.

Planting

- September is the best time to set out landscape plants. Shop early to find the nicest shrubs.
- When planting containerized plants, try to be certain to disturb or "open up" the plants' root ball.
- Set out new chrysanthemum plants this month.
- Plant pansies to add color to your yard in the autumn, winter and spring months.
- Groundcovers will become well established if planted now.
- Transplant any evergreen trees or shrubs that need moving this month.
- Plant the following fall vegetables in September: mustard, onion, radish and turnip.

Pruning

- Do NOT prune shrubs in September, October or November.
- Remove "weed" or unnecessary trees from your landscape.
- Rootprune any trees or plants you plan to move next spring.

Spraying

- Check the following landscape shrubs for the following insect pests: hemlock (wooly adelgid), arborvitae, hemlock and juniper (spider mites), azalea and pyracantha (lace bug) and euonymus (scale).
- Crapemyrtle leaves may be blackened from sooty mold. Help loosen with summer oil.
- Spray for peach tree borer on your nectarine and peach tree trunks.
- Continue with rose spray program.
- Keep a close eye on all fall vegetable plants. Insects and diseases are more severe in the autumn.
- Control the following woody weeds by spraying the recommended herbicide: trumpet creeper, bermudagrass, and blackberry.

Lawn Care
• Tall fescue lawns should be seeded this month. Remember to mulch the newly seeded areas with wheat or barley straw.
• Fertilize and lime your tall fescue lawns according to soil test results.
• Do NOT fertilize warm season grasses like centipedegrass, bermudagrass and zoysia now.
• Homeowners can apply an insecticide for lawn grubs in early September, if not done in August.

Propagation

• Spring flowering bulbs can be divided and replanted this month. Daffodils will be the bulbs that most likely need this consideration.

Specific Chores

• Mulch your favorite landscape plants for the winter
• Mark trees in the woods to be transplanted next March.
• Clean up garden sprayers and lawn equipment if not in use.
• Prepare house plants to reenter your home. Bring them inside a little each day and rid them of insect pests.
• If you do not have a fall vegetable garden, it is a good time to chop, burn or discard dead vegetable plants.
• Look for spring flowering bulbs to plant in October.
• You can get last year's poinsettia to flower by placing it in total uninterrupted darkness for 15 hours a day, starting the last week of the month and continuing through Thanksgiving. Do NOT leave in darkness all day.

October

Plants in Flower

• Sasanqua camellia, japonica camellia, chrysanthemum, and franklinia

Plants with Colorful Berries

• American beauty berry, burfordholly, chinese holly, foster holly, Nellie Stevens holly, nandina and pyracantha

Fertilizing

• Fertilize spring flowering bulbs at planting time with a balanced fertilizer.

Planting

• Plant spring flowering bulbs like daffodil, tulip, crocus and hyacinth this month.
• October is still a good time to set out new landscape plants.
• Plant or transplant peonies this month.
• Continue planting pansy plants now.
• If you do not have a fall vegetable garden, plant cover crops like annual rye, barley and wheat.
• You can start salad vegetables in a cold frame and enjoy them all winter. Plant lettuce, green onions, carrots, radishes, broccoli, cauliflower and most leafy greens inside the cold frame.
**Pruning**

- None
- Rootprune any trees or plants you plan to move next spring.

**Spraying**

- Control the following woody weeds by spraying the recommended herbicide: trumpet creeper and blackberry.
- Store your garden pesticides in a secured, dry location.
- Clean spray tanks.

**Lawn Care**

- Warm season lawns like bermudagrass, centipedegrass and zoysia can be over seeded with annual ryegrass.
- Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

**Propagation**

- None....Just remember to check the cuttings you put in a coldframe for winter. This should be done twice a month. Water as needed.

**Specific Chores**

- Take soil sample from your plant beds and vegetable garden for testing.
- Start filling your compost bin as leaves begin to fall.
- If you have not or do not plan to plant a cover crop, you can till organic material like tree leaves into your vegetable garden soil.
- Prepare bird feeders.
- Dig and store summer bulbs like gladioli, dahlia and caladium.
- Cure sweet potatoes this month.
- Spring flowering bulbs can be forced to flower in the dead of winter. Just pot the bulbs early this month and place inside your refrigerator. In twelve weeks take them out into the warmth of your home.
- Continue to prepare your lawn and garden equipment for winter storage.
- Store leftover fertilizers in a dry location for use next spring.

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**November**

**Plants in Flower**

- Japonica camellia

**Plants with Colorful Berries**

- American beautyberry, burford holly, chinese holly, foster holly, Nellie R. Stevens holly, nandina and
Fertilizing

- None needed on plants outside
- Use wood ashes as a replacement for limestone. (Rule of thumb: 3 lbs of wood ashes = 1 lb of ground limestone.)
- Fertilize house plants as needed.

Planting

- Deciduous or leaf losing trees and shrubs can be transplanted after the leaves fall in the autumn.
- Plant trees and shrubs this month.

Pruning

- Time to trim existing asparagus foliage. Cut to the ground after the foliage is killed by frost.
- No pruning should be done on shrubs or trees at this time.
- Cut back and clean up frost-killed perennials.

Spraying

- None

Lawn Care

- Mow your cool season or tall fescue lawn as needed.
- Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

Propagation

- Water your cuttings in the coldframe as needed.
- You may want to try your hand at air layering on some of your house plants like dieffenbachia or dumb cane.

Specific Chores

- Soil test results should be back if samples were sent in September or October. Apply the recommended lime to the areas in need of liming. Wait and fertilize in the spring.
- Check with the local Extension office for the recommended fruit varieties for the area.
- Order fruit trees and grape vines this month for a February or March delivery and planting.
- Remember to water your evergreen trees and shrubs thoroughly before winter set in, particularly if weather conditions have been dry.
- Look to see if screens or windbreaks are needed around your home.
- Continue filling the compost bin with the fallen leaves.
- Look for yuletide plants as gifts. Remember, some plants like poinsettias should be placed in the sunniest room in the house.
- Consider giving your family gardener a holiday gift to use in the garden.

If you have specific garden questions, contact the local Extension office at 652-8104.
There are brochures and other gardening information available also.