











# Gardening Checklist

## September/October

-  There's no need to fertilize any longer. It would be like having a cup of coffee just before you turned in for the night. Late season fertilizing makes it more difficult for plants to wind down to dormancy.
-  Continue to mulch. Adding a good layer of soil, bark or compost around your plants will help them to weather the cold and potentially dry season ahead.
-  Fall is a great time to transplant evergreens. Be sure to amend the soil well and water thoroughly after transplanting.
-  Harvest seeds from spent perennial blooms for spring germinating. Save in an envelope marked with the plant name and date collected. Store in a dark, dry place until ready for spring planting.
-  When planting new perennials in the fall, allow 2-3 weeks for their roots to develop and withstand a cold frost. Use root stimulator when planting to speed up the root development process.
-  Use a rose collar and mulch to protect the crown of the plant.
-  Collect seed heads from basil and spinach to use for next year's crops. Allow to dry before labeling and storing. Those green beans that grew too long or large with a tough pod can be left in their pod and dried for next year's crop as well.
-  Now is the time to plant spring blooming bulbs. They herald the onset of spring with refreshing color after our white winter.
-  Summer blooming bulbs can be dug up and stored for the season. These include dahlias, cannas, callas and gladiolus.
-  Rake your lawn and save any nondiseased grass clippings to use as mulch around your trees, shrubs and perennials. Or use a mulching lawn mower to add back that extra amount of clippings to help your lawn overwinter nicely.

