



October Garden Tips

- First frost is likely to arrive this month. Bring in the plants you put outdoors for the summer including geraniums, begonias, and fuchsias. The longer you wait, the more shock they will endure when you bring them in.
- Tender bulbs (dahlias, cannas, begonias) should be dug up and stored in a dry, cool, dark place after first frost.
- Avoid severe pruning of trees and shrubs now if possible. Wait until February or March for most trees and shrubs. Spring bloomers should be pruned right after bloom.
- Spring-blooming bulbs including tulips, daffodils, and hyacinths can be planted. Place bone meal or bulb fertilizer into the planting hole as you prepare the soil.
- Good time to clean up the annuals. Better to do it now rather than waiting until spring. •• Clean your pots using a mild bleach solution and store them in a protected area.
- If it has been dry, water newly-planted trees, shrubs, and perennials.
- Mums and asters can be kept blooming longer if they are covered with a sheet on evenings with a frost alert. Best to build a simple frame using stakes to keep the sheet off the plants. + Collect and save seeds for planting in the spring.
- This is a good time to mulch plants, especially newly planted perennials. The soil will be kept warmer allowing the roots more time to grow.
- This month is a good time to transplant trees and shrubs with minimal shock to the plant. Clean and oil your garden tools for winter storage
- For best flavor, dig horseradish during the fall Moon