



Master Gardener Tips November

Landscape Plants

Trees and Shrubs

Spray fruit trees with a lime-sulfur spray to control leaf curl next spring

Fertilize **camellias** now.

Check your shrubs for scale. Use dormant oil if needed. The shrubs to check are: **camellias, hollies, euonymus, azaleas** and **sasanquas**. Spray when the temperature is between 45° F and 85° F

Remove dead and diseased wood as soon as you can, so it does not cause further damage.

Many natural items are lovely in holiday decorations: pine cones, sweet gum balls, seed pods, berries, dried fruit and small branches from many different bushes, both evergreen and deciduous.

If you are planning on a live Christmas tree, remember to choose one that will survive in our climate. Choose one that will fit into your landscape.

Perennials

Sow seeds of **larkspur, poppies, forget-me-nots, bachelor buttons, sweet peas** and **nasturtiums** in a prepared, sunny beds.

Make sure to cover tender perennials when frosts are in the forecast.

Wet soil can grow **pitcher plants**. The leaf display is outstanding August thru October

Lantana over winters best if it is not cut back.

Leave some seed heads for new plants next year, particularly bi-ennials Lay dried **hollyhock** stalks down in the part of the garden where you want them in 2 years. Annual seedlings can be picked up and placed where you would like them.





Perennials should be pruned and mulched. Any that die completely back should be marked so that you know where they are when you plant any new items in the spring.



If powdery mildew is a problem, prevention is the first defense. Water early in the day if you can, to let the plants dry before the cooler nights.



Fall late bloomers are: **Helianthus, Heliopsis, rudbeckia, native Gentian, Stonecrop Sedum-Autumn Joy**, and of course **chrysanthemum** are all good fall flowers.



Wait for several killing frost to cut back any perennials that you want to clean up. If they have winter beauty and are pest free, enjoy them for a few more months.

Annuals



Collect seeds from summer flowers and keep them in air-tight containers, like old medicine bottles



You can now sow the seeds you collected from your spring flowers.



Fertilize newly-planted **pansy** beds with 5-10-10 or a slow release fertilizer.

Bulbs



Dig caladium and dahlias, store in a cool, dry area



If Amaryllis bulbs were planted last summer be sure to mulch well after they die back.



If you plant spring bulbs in the lawn, such as crocus, remember that you must avoid that spot with the lawn mower until their leaves die back.



Spring-flowering bulbs need cold soil to develop properly so plant these bulbs now and into December

Lawns



Rake often to keep leaves and pine needles off grass. Use this yard waste as mulch.



You can fertilize cool season **grasses**.

Roses



Thoroughly rake your **rose** bed(s). and replace with fresh mulch 2-3 inches thick. Black spot and other diseases along with insects will be removed. The roses will have a safer winter and spring.

Herbs



Weave **garlic, onions** or **dried chilies** together to make holiday wreaths with a gourmet twist. Eventually the strong odors will fade.



Use as many fresh herbs from your garden as you can for your Thanksgiving dressing. **Rosemary, thyme, sage, oregano** should still be available.

Vegetables



Vegetables such as **onions** and **asparagus crowns** can be planted now.



Crops such as **carrots, turnips, radishes** and **beets** \ may be left in the ground if heavily mulched and harvested on a continuing basis as needed.



Cover a plowed garden with 2-3 inches of compost, mulch or leaves. Leaching and erosion can occur if you don't.



Don't store **pears or apples** with other fruits or vegetables. They may ripen the others too fast for you to eat. These two fruits give off an ethylene gas which speeds up the breakdown of other fruits and vegetables giving them an off-flavor.



Watch any **tomatoes** left on the vines. They need an average daily temperature Pick them before a frost and store in a dark place.



Plants particularly susceptible to frost include:
cucumber, eggplant, melon, okra, pepper and
summer squash.



Before storing root crops like **carrots** and **beets**, cut off the green tops. The green continues to draw water from the roots and will dry them out quicker.

Houseplants



Over watering houseplants is a common mistake we all can make. Usually it is best to wait until at least the upper part of the soil is dry.



Paperwhite narcissus should be planted indoors toward the end of the month in order to have them ready for blooming presents.



Additional To-Do



Don't forget to water at 1 inch a week, if it doesn't rain.



If you bring your **geraniums** indoors for the winter, remember they need LOTS of sunlight for blooms and to keep from getting leggy.



This is a good time to prepare your garden tools for storage. Clean them and coat them with oil to keep them from rusting.



Put pepper in your houseplants to keep your cats from digging in them. Also hot sauce mixed with water and sprayed on plants will keep animals from eating their favorite nibbles in your garden. Warehouse stores sell it in large containers.



Remember to vary your activities in the garden when raking, mowing, weeding, pruning, digging. Alternating between the actions help muscles from getting over tired



Many natural items are lovely in holiday decorations:
pine cones, sweet gum balls, seed pods, berries,
dried fruit and small branches from many
different plants, both evergreen and deciduous.

