

Lawn & Garden SEPTEMBER To Do List



MAINTAIN

- ❑ Attack those weeds! Commercial herbicides are particularly effective this time of year, as weeds store nutrients in their roots.
- ❑ Remove and destroy (do not compost) unhealthy leaves and branches. Remove spent blooms, but don't do any heavy pruning.
- ❑ Label perennials and bulbs before they die back to the ground.

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS

- ❑ Divide and/or transplant perennials, feeding the roots with phosphorus.
- ❑ Plant or transplant peonies and don't disturb asters, chrysanthemums, Russian sage, ornamental grasses, or other plants that provide fall and winter interest.
- ❑ Plant annuals such as ornamental cabbage, pansies, violas, and snapdragons. Dig up and store tender bulbs after first frost.

LAWNS

- ❑ September is the best time for cool-season lawns. Start with core aeration and dethatching, leaving about 1/2-inch of thatch to decompose.
- ❑ Sow seed before mid-month, and let the new shoots grow through two to three mowings before applying fertilizer or a "weed and feed" product.
- ❑ Fertilize with a 3-1-2 fertilizer to encourage top growth and to encourage winter hardiness.

PLAN AHEAD

- ❑ Plant container-grown trees and shrubs and remove dead shrubs and trees. Transplant trees and shrubs after the leaves begin to turn.
- ❑ Clear out new planting beds and apply compost (or leaves and grass clippings) to be ready for spring.

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