

## November Gardening Chores

- Hardwood leaves, such as Oak, Hickory and Beech, should be carefully put aside for winter mulching. Use the lawn mower to shred the leaves. These leaves do not rot quickly nor pack down to smother plants. Leaves of the quickly decaying sorts, such as Maples, become humus by spring if composted.
  - Clean up all refuse and for preventive measures remove/burn all flower stalks and other material likely to decay. All peat which has been used for mulching during the summer should now be raked off and put aside to be used as ground conditioner, using new peat next season. This removes all dead and diseased plant leaves allowing for a fresh start next spring.
  - Be especially sure to burn the stalks of peonies, delphinium, and hollyhock.
  - Lilacs, Poplars and most smooth-barked trees and practically all fruit trees are subjects to the attacks of scale and should be sprayed with one of the soluble oil mixtures. They can be applied from now until March; at any other time they would injure buds or bark.
  - Low spots in the lawn may be top-dressed now.
  - If you haven't already done so, apply a fall compost dressing to your lawn.
  - Rake leaves and all other heavy matter off grass as it smothers very easily during extremely cold weather.
  - When chrysanthemums are through flowering, remove the stalks at once within a few inches of the ground.
  - Good time to work lime around irises.
  - Tulips may be planted until December if the weather is mild.
  - Late in November or early December is the time to put on the perennial border mulch for the winter after the ground first freezes a couple of inches deep. Applying it earlier means the chances of harboring destructive field mice which are still looking for winter quarters.
  - Heavy mulching of peonies is not desirable. When too thick a layer is applied, flowerless stalks may result.
  - Late fall planting of evergreens is risky. This class of plant should always be given plenty of time to reestablish its roots before the advent of really cold weather.
  - Good time to plant dwarf fruit trees, especially if light mulch is applied to the roots
  - November and December is a good time to clean out the tangle of overgrown vines. It is much better to prune the flowering vines now, than to risk disturbing the tender shoots after they start in the spring.
  - Hill up soil around Butterfly bush but do not cut off the tops until spring.
  - Don't forget to water the evergreens just before they go into winter if the weather is dry.
  - November is a good time to plant new trees and shrubs.
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- Test soil ph before applying lime
  - Hang up garlic bulbs to dry
  - Lift and store root crops for winter use
  - Continue to harvest and store apples and pears
  - Plant hedges
  - Lift layered plants
  - Start forcing rhubarb
  - Lift leeks and parsnips as required