

FALL GARDEN TIPS



PRUNE YOUR PERENNIALS

Pruning is essential for healthy plant growth.

Hand Pruners Our choice is Felco® for quality, ease and durability.

Pruning Saws For large or dead limbs, and heavy wood.

Tip: Make several cuts and remove the bulk of the limb before final cut. Your plant will heal more quickly.

Hedge Shears Create a consistent flat or sculptured look.

RENOVATE YOUR LAWN

Late summer, early fall is prime time to recondition your lawn or start a new one.

Test Soil Identify the nutrients, fertilizer and fertilizing schedule your lawn needs.

Aerate Break up compacted soil to help water, oxygen and fertilizer reach roots.

Seed & Fertilize Choose organic fertilizers when possible.

Black Beauty Grass Seed
Produces sod-like results, dark green color; improves disease resistance, drought tolerance.

Organica Microbial Soil Conditioner Provides the foundation for healthy turf growth.

Mir-a-Cal Adds calcium and pH control while providing nutrients and minimizing weeds.

Tip: Look for calcium-based products to minimize weeds, aid nutrient flow.

THE TIME IS NOW

GET COMPOSTING

Composting transforms plant debris into healthy soil.

Compost Bins Pyramid design offers top and side doors so you can add materials and remove finished product simultaneously. Tumblers are ideal for batch composting and easy aerating.

Bio-Excellerator Compost Supplement Ideal for composting end-of-season brown, drier vegetation and plant debris.

Compost Thermometer
Maintaining 110° is critical to optimal composting. **Tip:** As temps drop, turn compost to add fresh material to center, repeating until all material is composted.

Compost Aerators Designed for easy piercing and turning of compost.

Tip: If your compost pile is big enough a gardening fork can also help.



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PLANT BULBS

October is the best time to plant spring bulbs. **Tip:** Purchase in late summer, early fall when variety and quantities are at their peak.

Firm Healthy Bulbs Spring bulbs should be planted in full sun (minimum 6 hours) and well-drained soil. **Tip:** Stagger plantings with low varieties in front, tall in back. Mix bloom times to lengthen the season.

Bulb Planters To spot bulbs throughout garden. **Tip:** Plant bulbs at a depth approximately three times their diameter.

Espoma Bulb Tone All-natural plant food (3-5-3) aids development of bulbs.

Ro-Pel Highly effective animal repellent.

DIVIDE & TRANSPLANT PERENNIALS

Fall is the optimal time to divide and transplant perennials.

Dividing Spade To dig and prepare new spaces, and remove existing perennials. **Tip:** For a clean division of roots, use a sharp long-handle or D-handle dividing spade.

Coast of Maine's Fundy Blend Enriching Mulch with Seaweed or Cobscook Blend Gardening Soil Organic matter enriches soil in perennial gardens.

Transplant 1-Step Mycorrhizae enhances root growth and reduces transplant shock.

TEND YOUR HOUSEPLANTS

Water and humidity requirements change in cold weather – light requirements don't.

Moisture Meters Measures at root zone where water levels are critical.

Tip: Always water thoroughly; never let plants sit in water for more than a few minutes.

Water Mister & Humidity Trays

Tip: Mist at least once a day. Humidity trays provide moisture to foliage as water evaporates.

CREATE FALL COLOR

Just a few of many the varieties available to extend late season color and interest throughout garden beds and patios.

Fall Mums, Flowering Kale & Pansies Signature favorites all grown locally at Skillins.

Anise Hyssop Beautiful blue spike flowers attract hummingbirds, butterflies and bees. Foliage can be

Coast of Maine Bar Harbor Blend Potting Soil **Tip:** Add soil to the bottom and sides of root ball, never the top.

Dynamite Organic All-Purpose Plant Food Three-month time release fertilizer. Also effective: Miracle-Gro and Osmocote Smart Release.

Garden Safe Houseplant and Garden Sprays by Schultz Organic sprays are recommended indoors.

used in teas and salads for a sweet, spicy flavor.

Chokeberry Fragrant white spring bloomer with edible fruit and stunning red fall foliage. Autumn Magic grows 5' tall x 4' wide. Brilliant Red grows 8' tall x 6' wide.

Clethra Woody plant with white fragrant flowers blooming mid-to-late summer with yellow fall foliage. Varieties range from 2-3' up to 6-10'.

PUT YOUR BEDS TO REST

Proper fall clean up and bed preparation are key steps towards a healthy, colorful spring.

Plant-tone by Espoma – Apply a light application of fertilizer to shrubs and perennials late fall. This all-natural, all-purpose perennial fertilizer is blended for complete and balanced feeding.

Ames True Temper No Clog Rake Ergonomically designed to help reduce stress on the back, muscles and joints.

Tip: Prevent insects and disease by cutting tall grasses and removing debris, such as fallen leaves and branches.

Garden Marker As perennials are cut back, mark hibernating plants to ensure they are not disturbed before reappearing in the spring.

Tip: Capture garden notes in a journal while this season's results are fresh in your mind.