

## **October Yard and Garden Tips**

### **Shrubs and trees**

1. This is the beginning of the season to plant trees and shrubs.

### **Perennials, annuals and bulbs**

1. Plant your spring flowering bulbs late this month.
2. Collect and save seeds of wildflowers to sow now or in the spring.
3. Plant winter annuals such as pansies and snapdragons.
4. Cut back withering perennial blooms and add a layer of mulch.

### **Fruits and vegetables**

1. Harvest pumpkins, summer squash, and gourds before the first frost.
2. Dig and divide clumps of rhubarb.
3. Carrots, onions and parsnips can be left in the ground but apply mulch for protection.
4. After harvesting summer vegetables, plant a cover crop.

### **Lawn**

1. Seed bare areas to provide erosion control.
2. Fertilize your lawn with nitrogen to thicken lawn and improve color.
3. Increase the cutting height of Bermuda grass for winter.

### **Houseplants**

1. Place Christmas cactus in an east or north window and water and fertilize one last time.

### **Odds and ends**

1. This is a great time to do fall decorating with corn stalks, pumpkins and hay bales.
2. Fall is the ideal time to start a compost pile.
3. Provide food for the birds, as winter migration will begin soon.