

Putting your Garden to Bed



Why Close Your Gardens?

- Enables you to do garden chores you might not have time to do later in spring
- Helps to reduce pests and diseases from spreading
- What are some tasks to consider to closing our gardens



Fall to Do List: Cleaning out your Gardens

- Cutting down any herbaceous plants



- Removing annuals
- Removing non-hardy bulbs

How to Store Bulbs

- Remove by cutting off top part of plant
- Remove as much soil as possible around the roots/bulbs
- Let dry out before storing
- Wrap roots/bulbs in paper
- Store in breathable containers (e.g. Cardboard boxes)



Fall to Do List

- Pruning late summer/fall blooming shrubs



Fall Pruning/Trimming

- Hydrangeas (late fall/winter)
 - Annabelle
 - Macro
 - PGs



Good cut!



Too close to bud,
angle too tight



Too far from
bud, left a stump



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Fall to Do List

- Final weeding



Protecting bulbs against critters

- Planting them a bit deeper than recommended
- Adding metal mesh on top where bulbs are planted
- Planting bulbs with some animal hair
- Using more critter resistant bulbs



Narcissus



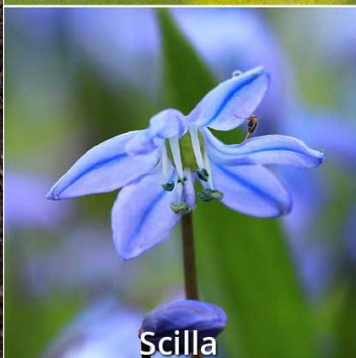
Muscari



Fritillaria



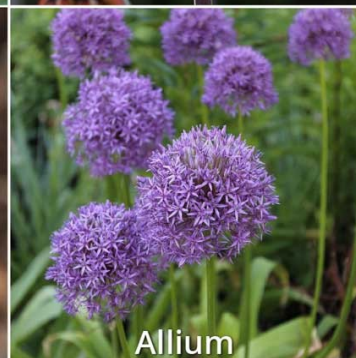
Hyacinth



Scilla



Snowdrops



Allium



Chionodoxa

Fall to Do List: Preparing Annual Beds for Spring

- Turning soil



- Adding compost
 - Needs to be fully decomposed
 - For annual beds – annually add 2"-3"
 - For perennial beds – annually it is best to add around 1"

Fall to Do List:

- Edging



Fall to Do List: Renovation Projects

- Dividing



- Transplanting

- Fertilize with a high phosphorous fertilizer (e.g. 10-52-10)





Before



After



Before



After

Fall Fun



Fall to Do List: Plan Future Projects



Fall to Do List: Winter Protection

- Wrapping vulnerable plants (mainly evergreens):
 - Plants close to paths, driveways or roadsides
 - Newly planted trees (under 2 years)



Winter Damage



Winter Protection

- Roses:
 - Cut down to 1 foot just slightly above a bud
 - Tie plants to prevent rose canes from breaking
 - Can mound mulch or soil around base, wrap in burlap or fleece fabric or use covers (e.g. Styrofoam)

