

# SHEL MERDINE

## FALL GARDENING CHECKLIST

- Prune deciduous trees/shrubs but not those that flower in the spring.
- Apply fall lawn fertilizer.
- Mulch garden beds with clay buster and compost.
- Pot up any herbs that are planted in the ground. Continue to grow them in a sunny spot indoors once the temperatures cool.
- Fall is a great season for planting. Plants are typically on sale at your local garden centre and the ground is nice and warm - plants love it!
- Divide overgrown perennials, including daylillies and iris.
- Apply tree-wrap to trees to help control cankerworms.
- Wrap trees with plastic or cloth wraps to prevent rabbits from harming the bark over winter and sunscald.
- Water trees and shrubs deeply, right up to ground freeze-up, to help them through the winter and early spring.
- Plant hardy, spring flowering bulbs such as tulips and daffodils.
- Rake and shred leaves.
- Turn off water taps and store hoses and sprinklers.
- Clean, sharpen and store tools.
- Remove all plants from container gardens. Remove the top 6"-8" of soil to leave room to insert potted fall mums.
- Decorate with pumpkins, fall mums, corn stalks and natural wreaths.
- Put rose collars around tea roses. Fill the collars with mulch and/or peat moss to provide extra winter protection to the roots.
- Stake and burlap-wrap evergreens such as cedar to prevent winterburn and deer damage.
- Essential fall plants include:
  - Perennial - Autumn Joy (*Sedum telephium*),
  - Shrub - Burning Bush (*Euonymus alatus*),
  - Tree - Sienna Glen Maple (*Acer freemanii* Sienna)