



FALL LANDSCAPING TIPS

Whether this is your first home or you are a seasoned gardener, here are a few tips and reminders to get your garden ready for winter. If you have further questions, feel free to give us a call or stop in.

Fall Cleanup: Remove leaves, weeds and debris. This reduces the risk of diseases, insects, and unwanted animals from over-wintering in your landscape.

Spring Flowering Bulbs: Now is the time to plant bulbs for spring color. Examples include Tulips, Daffodils, and Hyacinth.

Pruning Spring Flowering Shrubs: Do NOT prune now. Shrubs that bloom in the spring set their buds in the fall. They should be pruned after the blooms have faded, usually in late spring or early summer. Examples would include Lilacs, Forsythia, Azalea, Magnolia, and Rhododendron.

Pruning Non-Spring Flowering Shrubs: First, prune the dead out of non-spring flowering shrubs. Next, remove any crossing or rubbing branches. Then prune for shape. Examples would include Dogwoods, Burning Bush, Spirea, and Viburnum.

Pruning Roses: Leave roses alone until next spring. This protects and insulates the crown from winter winds. Cutting roses back or fertilizing them in the fall can lead to winter burn, unwanted growth or other problems.

Pruning Trees: Fall pruning of trees is recommended when insects are less active. Prune trees for proper form and to promote tree health. Remove dead branches; remove any crossing or rubbing branches and remove sprouts at the base. Improper pruning can damage the health of a tree, so contact one of our licensed arborists for proper pruning techniques.

Mulching: Top-dress your existing landscape beds so that mulch maintains a depth of about 3 inches. This adds insulation to new plantings for winter. Avoid piling mulch around the base of plants which can lead to poor plant health

New Plantings: Fall is a great time to add new plantings to your landscape. Warm soil and cooler temperatures are ideal for trees, shrubs and perennials to establish a good root system before winter. Consult with one of our landscape designers about any planting additions or spring projects now.

Additional Resources: Consult our arborists about tree stakes and wraps. These are valuable tools when needed, but can cause serious damage if left on too long. You can also consult our maintenance department for estimates on doing the above mentioned chores for you.