



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA EXTENSION

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Ramsey County Master Gardener Volunteer Program offers

## Garden Advice for Fall 2023

September – October – November

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## Fall Garden Activities

<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Reseed lawn</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Divide peonies, irises and other perennials</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Plant winter cover crops</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Bring houseplants back indoors</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Plant spring bulbs</a> (start)</li></ul>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Plant spring bulbs</a> (end)</li><li>• <a href="#">Clean up vegetable gardens</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Collect native plant seeds</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Clean rain barrels</a></li></ul>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Plant Bee Lawn</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Protect trees and shrubs from winter damage</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Add soil amendments</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Clean gardening tools</a></li></ul>

## Master Gardener Volunteers In Action

### Garden classes

ONLINE—Keep learning this fall! [This fall Master Gardener volunteers will be teaching classes about preparing your garden for winter, preserving food, growing microgreens, caring for houseplants, and more.](#) Classes are taught online.

### Find a Master Gardener

VARIOUS—Master Gardener volunteers are always happy to talk about plants with other gardeners! [Find us at the Ramsey County Yard Waste Collection sites](#) this fall.

### Children's Gardening Program

ST PAUL—The [Aurora-St. Anthony Peace Sanctuary Garden in the Rondo neighborhood of St. Paul](#) is the home of the [multigenerational Children's Gardening Program](#) supported by the Ramsey County Master Gardeners, Volunteer Program, the Urban Farm & Garden Alliance (UFGA) and urban farms in the Rondo and Frogtown Neighborhoods.

## Growing the Arts-Us Gardens

ST PAUL—Ride the bike path through Dunning Park in St Paul and you'll find a lovely little garden nestled behind the playground. The garden is part of the [Arts-Us Center for the African Diaspora](#) and it features vegetables from African and African-American cooking traditions. This summer, Master Gardener volunteers made the garden a classroom as part of a five-week Camp Teranga summer camp.

## Round Lake Restoration Project

MAPLEWOOD—For many years, Ramsey County Master Gardener volunteers have been working with the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District on a variety of shoreline and upland restoration projects. [This year, volunteers helped replace turf grass and non-native plantings with diverse native vegetation on the shores of Round Lake in Keller Regional Park.](#)

## The Buzz from the Frogtown Bee Line

ST PAUL—The [Pierce Butler Route “Bee Line,” started by the Frogtown Green](#) team offers an alternative model for roadway maintenance. Ramsey County Master Gardener volunteers help care for the native plants grown here to support local insects and will be collecting seeds to continue the work later this fall.

# Fall Garden Information

## A primer on spring-flowering bulbs

[Create showstopping displays in your spring garden by adding flowering bulbs to your autumn planting.](#) Hardy, spring-flowering bulbs require advanced planning because they are planted in the fall, spend winter in the ground and flower in the spring.

## Tips for making a kid-friendly garden

Looking for ways to make your garden more kid-friendly next year? [Check out these tips](#) from Ella Koshti, Anoka County Extension Master Gardener.

## Fall lawn care

It's been a difficult couple of years for our lawns, with drought conditions across much of the state. If you're reseeding this fall, it's best to get that seed down before mid-September. If you're considering [establishing a bee lawn](#), the best time to seed is late fall. The University Extension has a host of resources on [fall lawn care](#), [a lawn care calendar](#), and information on [renovating your lawn](#).

## Dealing with boxelder bugs & other house pests

There are 3 commonly seen invading insects in MN each fall: [boxelder bugs](#), [multicolored Asian lady beetles](#), and [brown marmorated stink bugs](#). [Find more info here on these pesky pests and how to deal with them.](#)

## Bee, wasp or hornet nest: which one?

One of the most common garden questions during the fall is how to get rid of a “bee’s” nest but not all of these are actually bees. Before you go about destroying a nest, determine whether it is a nest of bees, wasps or hornets. [Use this helpful resource](#) to track down the answer.

## When to pick your apples

Most apple varieties available to home gardeners in Minnesota are harvested after mid-September and before Halloween but each apple has a different ripening time—some as early as mid-August. Use a few [simple, smart guidelines](#) to decide when to harvest and [find a local orchard to pick your own](#).

## Coming soon! Food scrap pickup

Beginning this fall, the Food Scraps Pickup pilot program will be available to all residents of North Saint Paul, Maplewood, Cottage Grove, and Newport. [Find out more about the program here](#), and learn about the [new improvements](#) at the solid waste facility in Newport.

## How to save seeds from native plants

Fall is a good time for collecting seed in Minnesota from plants that are summer bloomers, including some beloved natives like purple coneflower. Check out [this guide from the Minnesota State Horticultural Society](#) on collecting native seeds.

## Embrace the season’s fall color

Every year, the [DNR maintains a map of the best fall color in the state](#), updating it regularly so you can plan a trip to a nearby park or wildlife area and enjoy the season.

## Rain barrel clean-out

[Fall is a good time to clean your rain barrel](#). Extra water can be saved for watering your houseplants, especially plants like orchids, which are sensitive to tap water. Cleaned rain barrels can be stored in a garage or shed, or outside.

More Resources to Help You Grow

[Ramsey County Master Gardener Volunteer Program Website](#)

[Ask a Master Gardener](#) Online & Phone Services

[Yard and Garden Information](#)

[Ramsey County Yard Waste](#) & [Food Scraps](#) Drop-off Locations

[Soil Testing Laboratory](#)