

Fall Into Winter

FALL

Fall includes the months September, October, and November. These months span a large range of temperatures – from 77°F in September down to 18°F in November. Unlike spring, these months tend to feel a little warmer because the soil still retains a lot of summer heat. Gardeners will spend much of the fall removing plants from the garden and preparing for winter in a way that will make it easy to start gardening again in the spring.

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Divide perennials ▪ Plant hardy bulbs ▪ Install new woody plants ▪ Sow grass seed ▪ Apply herbicides if needed ▪ Move houseplants inside 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Harvest vegetables ▪ Use season extenders ▪ Clean-up garden ▪ Submit soil test ▪ Collect seeds ▪ Amend soil 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continue watering & mowing until below 40° F ▪ Mulch around woody & perennial plants ▪ Set-up winter protection ▪ Clean & sanitize garden tools

WINTER

Winter includes the months December, January, and February. These are the coldest and darkest months of the year and, consequently, very little gardening happens outdoors. Many gardeners use this season to rest after a busy summer and fall. Others use the time to prepare for the upcoming spring and the next garden.

DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inventory garden equipment & supplies ▪ Purchase seeds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Start long-season seeds ▪ Monitor water needs for houseplants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Start long-season seeds ▪ Prune woody plants

LEARN MORE WITH THESE RESOURCES

PRO-TIP: Google “site:edu **TOPIC**” (or site:gov) for research-based advice

- ❖ University of Minnesota Extension <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden>
- ❖ Soil-Testing Lab <http://soiltest.cfans.umn.edu/>
- ❖ Ramsey County Yard Waste Sites <https://www.ramseycounty.us/residents/recycling-waste/collection-sites/yard-waste>
- ❖ Ask Extension Garden Help <https://extension.umn.edu/master-gardener/ask-master-gardener>

CLASS NOTES

APPLYING THE KNOWLEDGE

What types of plants in my garden need attention in the fall?

How will I take stock of my garden supplies? Where should I shop?

Which resources will be most useful if I have questions?

