



## SEPTEMBER

### **Tips to help with TREES & SHRUBS, ANNUALS & PERENNIALS:**

- Perennials can be divided toward the end of September, as the foliage turns yellow. Take this opportunity to add manure or compost to your garden before replanting.
- Most deciduous shrubs can be pruned in the fall, if needed. For flowering shrubs, the rule of thumb is to prune shortly after flowering has finished. Pruning spring flowering shrubs now may reduce flower production next season. Most evergreens are best pruned in mid-June, but cedars and junipers can be trimmed in the fall.
- Maples and Birches are best pruned in the fall, to avoid the sap bleeding that occurs in the spring.
- Its time to plant spring bulbs. Be sure to add bone meal or Bulb Booster when planting. Blood meal or hen manure will help deter squirrels, chipmunks, rabbits and rodents from digging up your bulbs.
- Compost your spent annuals and replace with Pansies, Mums, Asters, Cabbage or Kale for great fall colour.

### **Tips to help with PONDS:**

- In late September remove leaves that are yellowing or flowers that are finishing. Cover the pond with netting to prevent falling and blowing leaves from ending up in the bottom of your pond and decomposing over winter.
- Dying and decaying leaves release CO<sub>2</sub>, ammonia and nitrates that can harm your fish over winter, so keeping your pond clean in the fall is vital.
- Feed your fish with high quality, easily digested, wheat germ based food.

### **Tips to help with FRUITS, VEGGIES & HERBS:**

- Herbs such as parsley, rosemary, chives, thyme and marjoram can be dug from the garden and placed in pots now for growing indoors this winter.
- Pinch off any young tomatoes that are too small to ripen. This will channel energy into ripening the remaining full-size fruits.
- Harvest herbs now to freeze or dry for winter use.

### **Tips to help with LAWNS:**

- Prepare your lawn for over-seeding, by raking, dethatching and/or aerating. Use a Top Dresser soil in low or bare spots. Evenly apply your grass seed and then keep seeded areas moist, but not wet for approximately two weeks. A thicker lawn keeps weeds out.
- Pull weeds before they go to seed to reduce the number of weeds next season.
- Fall is the best time to fertilize your lawn with Nutrite Fall Lawn Fertilizer 10-0-15. As your lawn slows down above ground, roots continue to actively grow. A fall feeding delivers vital nutrients to encourage deep root growth and will help your lawn to store essential nutrients over the long cold Canadian winter. The storing process will continue as long as the plant is green. At the first sign of spring, your lawn will quickly tap into the stored nutrients, increasing the chances of you having a healthy green lawn.

### **Tips to help with HOUSEPLANTS:**

- Begin readying houseplants for winter indoors. Prune back rampant growth and protruding roots. Check for pests and treat if necessary with Insecticidal Soap or End-All. Houseplants should be brought indoors at least one month before the heat is normally turned on.

Clean and fill your bird feeders, so birds have a regular food source. Bird baths in the winter are bird magnets.