

Community Gardening Events

Mainland

Arthur Erickson Garden Tours Weekly guided tours of the Japanese-inspired West Coast garden of Canada's celebrated architect. Every Thursday at 5 p.m. or Monday and Thursday afternoons for groups of 3 or more. Admission: \$10 per person. Help to preserve this unique heritage garden. Reserve at 604-738-4195 or email aegarden@telus.net

Garden Tour of New Zealand in February 2005 – Hosted by Des and Sandy Kennedy A small group of adventuresome gardeners will take part in a two-week exploration of the gardens and marvelous landscape of New Zealand. This well-planned vacation promises to be both inspirational and enlightening. For tour information, contact Julia Guest at 604-925-2677 or 1-800-320-3377 or email: Julia@panoramatravel.ca.

Spider Surprise At the Vandusen Botanical Garden, 5251 Oak Street. For families with children aged 4 and older. Explore the garden for spiders and their webs. Find out how they help the garden grow. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 604-878-5860. Pre-registration required.
• **Sunday October 17, 1:30 to 3 p.m.**

Island

Christmas Floral Fantasy – Hosted by The Victoria Flower Arrangers. Cadboro Bay United Church Hall, 2625 Arbutus Road, Victoria, B.C. Door price is \$5 per person. Advance ticket sales are \$4 per person. Tea is served for \$3 per plate. Wheelchair accessible.

• **Friday, November 19, noon to 8 p.m.**
• **Saturday, November 20, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

6th Annual Salt Spring Island Apple Festival At Fulford Hall, Salt Spring Island, B.C. The collection of apple varieties includes at least 150 (labeled and described), all of which are organically grown.
• **Sunday, October 3**

IT'S FREE to place your gardening event in our listing. We announce the events we feel most widely interest our readers. Fax the information to 604-299-4403 or e-mail editor@gardenworks.ca

Deadline dates are

January 5 for March edition
March 1 for April edition
May 1 for June edition
August 1 for September edition

 **GARDENWORKS** Nine great garden centres serving you in B.C.

BURNABY - HEAD OFFICE

6250 Lougheed Highway
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Mission V2V 1A4
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**SOUTH SURREY
OCEAN PARK**

2124 - 128th Street
Surrey V4A 3V6
(604)535-8853

SAANICH

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Victoria V8X 2C4
(250)721-2140

OAK BAY

1916 Oak Bay Avenue
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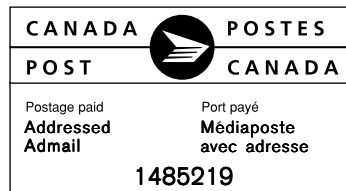
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Issue #68 • Autumn 2004 • An Information Newsletter For Valued Customers

Autumn Inspirations...

- **fall colour**
design your garden with fall colour
- **mandrakes & polyjuice**
create enchanting fall containers
- **100 blooming days**
a full season of colour with fall bulbs

Photo by Greg Vaughan



We have everything to make your garden work. We take pride in the quality plants and products we sell. GARDENWORKS guarantees success in your garden.

• visit us online at www.gardenworks.ca •



Dear Gardeners

A LETTER FROM JOHN

A new garden season...

As I prepare this note I've just returned from a vacation in Winnipeg and the Lake of the Woods area of northwestern Ontario. I had a wonderful time visiting long-time friends, sharing many stories and trying to help them with some of

their gardening challenges whenever a quiet moment arose.

It is times like these that make us appreciate our friends and realize we should make more time for them. The trip also caused me to thank my lucky stars I'm in the garden centre business in British Columbia, with its temperate climate that allows us to grow such a wide range of plants. This year our early spring led to a very warm summer. There were just a few bumps in the road, with European chafers in the lawns and "sudden oak death" in our camellias, but otherwise, it has been a wonderful gardening season.

Fall brings another gardening season — an ideal time to spend more time in the garden preparing for a beautiful display of spring-blooming bulbs; renovating and patching the lawn; and planting perennials and shrubs in those open spots you may have on your property. You can never have too many plants!

Spring-flowering bulbs are available in all our stores now, so visit us soon to make sure you don't miss out on the new and interesting varieties. The plant quarantines earlier this year meant we had to hold back certain varieties of trees and shrubs — rhododendrons, azaleas, Japanese maples, to name a few — so now our selection is better than ever for this time of year. The growing conditions have been excellent, so these trees and shrubs are in beautiful health and ready to be planted. In addition, our nursery managers have completed their tours of growers in B.C., Washington, and Oregon and many more plants are on their way.

Watch your community newspapers for our regular ads starting in mid-September and our fall sale, which starts in early October. We'll be offering many specials on flowering bulbs, plants and all the garden supplies you'll need to make your garden beautiful this fall and next year. Don't forget to check our website — www.gardenworks.ca — for news about special events and promotions in our stores.

Good luck in your gardens!

John Zaplatynsky,
President, GARDENWORKS

Fall & Winter Hands-On Workshops



Ocean Park

For more information or to register call 604-535-8853. Registration fee is \$10.00. You will receive a 10% discount on purchases that day for your participation.

SATURDAY CLASSES

- Classes begin at 10:30 a.m.
- October 9 • Thanksgiving Centrepiece
- October 23 • Living Wreath
- November 6 • Lasagna-style Planting for Bulbs
- November 20 • Christmas Moss Basket
- December 4 • Fireside Basket
- December 11 • Kissing Ball
- December 18 • Christmas Centrepiece

Burnaby

To register call 604-299-0621. For more information ask for Debbie or email: dhamilton@gardenworks.ca. Class limit is 10. There is a \$10.00 registration fee, which will be deducted from the total of your supplies. An additional 10% discount will be given for your participation.

THURSDAY CLASSES

- Classes begin at 6:30 p.m.
- October 7 • Thanksgiving Pumpkin Centrepiece
- October 14 • Fall Theme Pot (NEW)
- October 21 • Twig Trellises (NEW)
- October 28 • Fright Night Wreath (NEW)
- November 4 • Bow Making 101 (NEW)
- November 25 • Snowman Topiary (NEW)
- December 2 • Holiday Moss Basket
- December 9 • Christmas Wall Bouquet (NEW)
- December 16 • Christmas Tree Centrepiece

SATURDAY CLASSES

- Classes begin at 10:00 a.m.
- November 27: Basket of Light
- December 4: Fresh Door Wreath
- December 11: Fresh Door Wreath
- December 18: Traditional Holiday Centrepiece

Mandrakes and Polyjuice

By J. E. Betzler, C.H.T.,
Manager, GARDENWORKS Granville

Most of autumn's magic lies in the surplus of colour offered by seasonal flora. Allow yourself to be lured by this splendour, and concoct an enchanting container for the balcony or front door.

It's always best to begin your brew in your favourite cauldron/planter if you have one, but there is an abundant supply of beautiful pottery at all GARDENWORKS locations if you need to choose something to suit your outdoor décor.

Power and drama make a good foundation for container gardens. A red *Phormium* 'Sundowner' or 'Evening Glow' are good examples. *Euphorbia purpurea* or bronze *Carex buchananii* make a strong statement and will provide height and shape in your creation. Wallflowers are radiant companions — and *Erysimum* 'Bowles Mauve', 'Lemon', 'Sweet Sorbet', are some that you

might try. Perhaps add the blue blossoms of *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides* 'Leadwort' for a heavenly touch to your floral concoction.

Always irresistible are the teasing whorls of *Heuchera* which not only add a playful dimension but endure the winds and rains of winter and will not disappoint. 'Purple Petticoats' is a personal favourite but the list is endless and 'Stormy Seas', 'Velvet Night' and 'Amber Waves' are but a sampling that continue to tempt and charm me. Select the one that most suits your tastes, and position it prominently in your planter.

Now that you have the basis for a truly magical potion, flowering annuals are the next ingredient. Besides the abundance of winter pansies available in the fall, look for enchanting *Osteospermum* 'Symphony' in lemon, orange and peach, charming *Calibrachoa* 'Superbells' in cherry, pink, red and white and delightful *Diascia* 'Flying Colours' in coral, antique rose, and red. Choose one or two that fit your scheme and nearly fill your pot, but leave some space because there's more.

To soften the edges and fill the corners of your creation, try sumptuous *Ajuga* 'Mahogany' or 'Burgundy Glow', radiant *Artemisia* 'Oriental Limelight', lime yellow *Lysimachia nummularia* 'Goldilocks', or sensual *Sedum* 'Red Carpet'. Tucked securely into your container, one or two will have the potion ready for a lengthy steeping.

Once complete, not only will your infusion delight and astonish, but it will have your friends speculating what sleight of hand could produce such enchantment and charm.

All photos courtesy of Proven Winners - www.provenwinners.com. Above left: planters filled with *Carex buchananii*, *Heuchera* 'Amber Waves' and *Osteospermum* 'Peach symphony'. Right: [1] *Heuchera* 'Velvet Night', [2] *Calibrachoa* 'Superbells', [3] *Lysimachia nummularia* 'Goldilocks', [4] *Ceratostigma plumbaginoides* 'Leadwort' [5] *Heuchera* 'Amber Waves'.



“Autumn is absolutely my favourite time of the year...”

Fall Garden Agenda



What to do in the garden

Autumn is absolutely my favourite time of year. It is the season of change. The air becomes crisper, the days become cooler and the foliage takes on gorgeous shades of yellow, orange and red.

Autumn is a wonderful time to appreciate our plants for all that they were over the growing season and what they will become over the next few years. Some plants will be putting on their fall colours; others making berries or fruit, dying down, or getting ready to sleep for the winter. There is much to do in the fall to prepare the garden for the changeover and ensure their survival in the winter months. Here are a few chores that will make the transition into winter an easy one for your plants and your garden.

General Cleanup

Get a head start on those weeds for next year, weeding the garden as much as you can before the frost comes. Weeds are easy to pull at the beginning of autumn. **Rake up the leaves and other debris** from garden beds and the lawn. Keeping leaves and debris cleaned up discourages rodents from making a home over winter. Unless the leaves are diseased, throw them all into the compost to be returned to the garden next spring. **Cultivate the soil one last time.** Not only will this help to improve soil structure, it will expose larvae and insects to the freezing temperatures and kill them.



September and October are great months to plant trees and shrubs.

Preparing the Garden Beds

Fall is a great time to prepare garden beds, especially in the vegetable garden, in order to get a head start on planting for next spring. **Add any compost from your bin to your garden and turn over the soil.** Compost helps to improve soil structure and adds important nutrients back into the soil. Another way to do this is to **plant fall rye, or fall legume mix.**

Slugs

I can't let a newsletter go by without writing about ways to destroy slugs. **Slugs breed in the fall, so this is a good time to trap them** before they can produce more offspring. In past issues, I have mentioned various ways to get rid of slugs, but **my favourite method is to use beer traps.** Slugs are attracted to the yeast in the beer. As mentioned above, turning over the soil helps by exposing the eggs to the air and predators such as birds.

Annuals & Perennials

Remove tired and dead-looking annuals from your garden and planters. **Plant fall bedding plants**, such as pansies, ornamental cabbage/kale or asters, for some colour in the upcoming weeks. **Deadhead all perennials that are finished blooming and cut back any that have died down to the ground.** Compost these plants if you can, but throw away diseased plant litter rather than infecting your compost. **Mulch tender perennials**, with straw, hay or leaves from the garden to protect them from frost over winter.

Autumn is a good time to plant as well as divide perennials such as hostas. To divide perennials, cut back the foliage and carefully dig them out of the ground. Use a sharp, clean knife, pruners or spade to cut the plant apart, making sure each section has some roots attached. Prepare the location for these new divisions ahead of time with good soil and some **GARDENWORKS** bone meal to help with root development.

Bulbs

Tender bulbs, such as dahlias, gladiolas and canna lilies, should be dug up in October, dusted with bulb dust to prevent disease and stored in a cool dry place over winter. After the garden is cleaned up, the annuals removed, the perennials taken care of and the tender bulbs lifted, it is time to **plant flowering bulbs for next spring.** **GARDENWORKS** has a great selection of spring bulbs — tulips, daffodils, crocus, galanthus, scilla and more. **Don't forget to pick up some GARDENWORKS bulb food** to add to the hole when planting the bulbs. This will help with their root development. To prevent squirrels from digging up the bulbs, try placing chicken wire over the area and then covering it with soil.

Trees & Shrubs

September and October are great months to plant trees and shrubs. The soil is still warm from the summer — encouraging root growth - but it's cool enough that the soil doesn't dry out too quickly. In October, place tree collars around trees to prevent deer and mice from nibbling on trunks and damaging the trees. **In November, give trees and shrubs one last good deep watering** to take them through the winter. November and December are also good months (providing that the plants are dormant) to **apply dormant oil and lime sulphur to deciduous trees, shrubs and fruit trees.** Dormant oil kills overwintering insect eggs and lime sulphur kills overwintering fungal spores. Dormant oil and lime sulphur used in combination is a great preventative spray.

Roses

Deadhead roses one last time in October. Give them a light pruning by cutting branches back by 1/3 from the end of October to the beginning of November. **Mulch the bases of roses with peat moss or compost** to protect the roots from winter frost.

I hope this gives you some ideas for things to do in the garden at this time of the year. **Have a great fall and a wonderful holiday season.**

By Debbie Hamilton, **GARDENWORKS** Burnaby

Clinics & Special Events at GARDENWORKS

Ocean Park **GARDENWORKS** Clinics

Bulb Clinic

• Saturday, October 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 1p.m.

What, Where, When and How to Plant Bulbs

• Sunday, October 3, at 1p.m.

Pond Clean up and Prep for Winter

• Sunday, October 17, at 1p.m.

Spooky Halloween Planter (a kid's workshop)

• Saturday, October 30, at 12 noon

Forcing Bulbs for Christmas (a kid's workshop)

• Saturday, November 13, at 12 noon

Forcing Bulbs for Indoors

• Sunday, November 14, at 1p.m.

Everything You Need to Know for Pruning

• Sunday, November 28, at 1p.m.

Make a Christmas Gift for Mom and Dad (a kid's workshop)

• Saturday, December 11, at 12 noon

Events

Country Fall Fair at Ocean Park

• Friday, October 8 – Monday October 11
Apple tasting, music, lots of great events all weekend

Fall Harvest "Fare" at Burnaby

• Saturday, October 9 – Monday October 11

12th Annual Christmas Open House at Burnaby

• Thursday, November 18

Christmas Open House at Ocean Park

• Thursday, November 25, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Get into the Christmas spirit and join us. Our store will be all dressed up for Christmas, school choirs will be performing and there will be lots of fun all evening. Santa and Mrs. Claus will make a special appearance and will be available for pictures.

Customer Appreciation Days

On the third Thursday of each month all of our store locations hold a Customer Appreciation Day, offering **15% off everything** in the store (excluding Dept. 56 Collectibles). Upcoming dates include **October 21, November 18** and **December 16.**

Advertised Sales

Watch your community newspaper for our **Spring Bulb Promotions**, advertised **September 15** and **29.**

The **GARDENWORKS Autumn Flyer** arrives at your doorstep **October 6.** Jam-packed with fabulous fall deals and wonderfully rich garden colour!



FALL BULBS

By Alan R. Reid, Ph.D., Garden Supply Manager, GARDENWORKS Burnaby

The great English poet William Wordsworth was so infatuated by seeing fields of bulbs in flower that it inspired this poem. Few autumn chores are as satisfying as putting bulbs into the ground, but sometimes choosing between all the kinds, colours, heights and bloom times can seem overwhelming. In recent years, bulb catalogues have begun to offer collections of bulbs presorted by colour and selected to bloom together or in succession. This year is no exception at GARDENWORKS, as we feature several exclusive and specialty bulbs as well as collections that will bloom for almost 100 days.

The **100 Blooming Days** collection features several perennial favourites such as *Crocus*, *Muscari*, *Hyacinthus* and the giant purple flowering onion, *Allium giganteum*. If you prefer a blue colour theme, the **Rhapsody in Blue** collection contains *Muscari*, *Tulipa* 'Lilac Perfection', *Hyacinthus* 'Delft Blue' and the dwarf Dutch iris 'Harmony'.

If you are looking for something unusual and special for the garden, try the shade-loving *Cyclamen coum*. This petite pink flower will thrive under pines, spruces and firs in semi-shade. For an exciting show of colour and shape in a full sun area, combine green ruffled 'Green with Envy' tulip with the double ruffled yellow *Narcissus* 'Sprinter'. Both are sure to delight any gardener.

PLANTING SPRING BULBS

For a beautiful spring display of colour, **choose bulbs that are plump and firm**, and plant them before the heavy rains set in.

Prepare a planting area by loosening the soil and adding organic matter and a complete fertilizer. GARDENWORKS Bulb Food 3-15-8 is an ideal source of complete nutrients for your bulbs. Planting depth for bulbs varies with the variety. Plant large bulbs like hyacinths, daffodils and tulips about 4-6 inches (10-15cm) deep and 4 inches (10cm) apart. Crocuses and grape hyacinths should be planted about 4 inches (10cm) deep and 1 ½ - 2 inches (4-5cm) apart.

You can **create a more natural-looking floral display by setting the bulbs in clusters and mixing varieties.** Daffodils usually bloom several weeks before tulips and are available in a number of heights, shapes and colours, depending on the type. They also vary in their blooming time, so select late or early bloomers depending on your needs.

Bulbs are one of the easiest ways to create a colourful floral display. With a little effort now, you can enjoy a beautiful spring garden.



*I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.*

Wordsworth

Photos courtesy of M. Van Noort & Sons Bulb Company. Top photo: Green with Envy Mix; bottom left: *Narcissus* 'Sprinter'; bottom right: *Cyclamen coum*



All three photos courtesy Great Plants Picks

Designing YOUR GARDEN FOR FALL

By Tom Meyer, GARDENWORKS Landscape Design Manager

The days begin to shorten and the air takes on a distinct chill. Children head back to the excitement of another school year and life begins to get back into a predictable routine after the wild days of summer. The signs are unmistakable – fall has arrived.

While so much is going on in our lives at this time of year, nature is working hard to make sure we don't forget her. The glory of so many plants in their fall finery is nothing short of amazing and with a little bit of planning you can make sure that this fall show is part of your garden.

When selecting plants for your garden, consider not just things like flower colour, height and soil requirements (remember: "the right plant for the right place"), but also think about fall colour. Once I have established the shape of a garden and begin choosing plants, fall colour is one of my top considerations.

So where do you start? A good design takes into account how you view the garden at different times. In summer the aspect is predominantly from within the garden; we try to surround ourselves with the lush feel of nature. In fall we usually see the garden from inside the house or while strolling through it. Take time to place plants with fall colour somewhere you can see them from inside, or ensure they come into view as you walk along pathways.

When creating your garden, keep a balance among different types of plants. Deciduous trees and shrubs placed throughout the garden not only give textural variation but can provide an exciting jolt of colour in fall. For example, the beautiful red fall colour of *Euonymus alata* (burning bush) placed among upright-growing conifers can bring an otherwise quiet corner alive in fall.

Fall colour doesn't only come from foliage — don't forget shrubs with berries. *Callicarpa* 'Profusion' with its magenta purple berries is an exciting plant for any garden. As an added bonus, the berries hang around well into winter and make a great addition to an arrangement at Christmas time.

Ornamental grasses extend the fall excitement. Many ornamental grasses spend all summer getting ready to set their plumes of flowers (really seed heads) in the fall. Even if the grass has finished its first big show, the texture of the leaves contrasts beautifully with the changing landscape.

Fall is a great time to be in the garden, to harvest the bounty grown in the summer — be it the edible harvest or the visual harvest sparked by the changing seasons. So when planning your garden, don't forget plants that will bring the joys of fall to your landscape.

To get you started, here a few plants that give dependable fall colour.



DEPENDABLE FALL COLOUR

TREES: *Acer japonicum* 'Aconitifolium' – full moon fernleaf maple (above); *Cercidiphyllum japonicum* – katsura tree

SHRUBS: *Fothergilla gardenii* (top left); *Hydrangea quercifolia* 'Snow Queen' – Snow Queen oak-leaved hydrangea (top right)

PERENNIALS: *Schizostylis coccinea*; *Sedum* x 'Autumn Joy'

GRASSES: *Calamagrostis* x 'Karl Forster', *Pennisetum alopecuroides* 'Moudry'

VINES: *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* - Virginia creeper;s *Clematis ternifolia* – sweet autumn clematis