

# GARDENNOTES

Issue #86 • Autumn 2010 • An Information Newsletter For Valued Customers

## The Promise of Spring

SPRING  
FLOWERING BULBS

**NEW for 2010**  
CINNAMON SNOW  
HELLEBORE

THE SECRET  
OF FALL  
PLANTING

**GARDEN**  
AGENDA  
FOR AUTUMN

GARDEN CLINICS  
& EVENTS

**LANDSCAPE**  
DESIGN  
TIPS FOR CREATING  
WINTER INTEREST

Transform  
Your Home  
INTO A WARM  
& COZY OASIS



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# GARDENWORKS

## Special Events

**Fall Harvest Celebration** Held at all **GARDENWORKS** locations on the Thanksgiving long weekend. Join us as we celebrate the harvest season with special events, clinics and fall flier specials.

**Saturday, Oct. 9 – Sunday, Oct. 10**

**Howling Halloween** Bring your little ones down to **GARDENWORKS** Mandeville dressed up in their costumes, and they'll receive a special Halloween treat. Bring your camera – we'll have a special display arranged for picture-taking.

**Sunday Oct. 31, drop in 1–5:30 p.m.**

**Chrysanthemum Show** At **GARDENWORKS** Mandeville Sponsored by the Point Grey Chrysanthemum Society

**Saturday, Nov. 6, noon – 4 p.m.**

**Sunday, Nov. 7, 10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

**Christmas Open House** An Extra Special Customer Appreciation Day held at all **GARDENWORKS** locations. Let us show you our appreciation! Start your holiday season with special events, sales and decorating inspiration.

**Thursday, Nov. 18.**

**Chicks, Cheese and Christmas** At the Mandeville **GARDENWORKS** location. A great girlfriend bonding evening filled with fun, excitement, entertainment and an amazing Christmas decor and gift selection.

**Tuesday, Dec. 7, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.**

## Being Green

Did you know you can receive an electronic version of this newsletter? Many of our subscribers are choosing the "green version" and loving it!



If you would like to reduce the effect of printing on the environment, simply e-mail [subscriptions@gardenworks.ca](mailto:subscriptions@gardenworks.ca) and request to be taken off the postal service list. Be sure to mention you would like to continue receiving the newsletter via e-mail.

We thank you for helping to keep our planet healthy.



John Zaplatynsky with his wife Sally in their garden.

## Dear Gardeners

This edition marks my final note to you as President of **GARDENWORKS**. As I indicated earlier this year, I am stepping down from my position, as well as ownership in our company, leaving day-to-day management and direction of the company to my four partners. I will continue on as Chairman of the company, so you will still see me around from time to time, especially in spring.

My partners, who have a combined total of over 70 years of experience at **GARDENWORKS**, share my love of gardening. They have worked closely with me to build our company based on shared values: offering a wide selection of high quality garden plants and related products; a commitment to a high level of knowledgeable and friendly service; and the backing of our **Green Thumb guarantee**. I know you will be in good hands with Bruce, Leanne, Scott and Peter.

Time has flown by rapidly since we purchased our Lougheed Highway store from Bill Vander Zalm in January 1984. After nine years of expanding within the Art Knapp organization, we decided to strike out on our own with six garden centres under the **GARDENWORKS** name. It was not a decision taken lightly, as we had been successful within that group, but we wanted to have our future in our own hands. We worked diligently to develop a different shopping experience, our own line of **GARDENWORKS** products, and a stronger emphasis on customer service. The trust and continued loyalty of our customers in the Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island gave us the confidence of knowing we were on the right path.

Over the years I have met a tremendous number of gardeners, both experienced and novice. I have learned from all of you and hopefully have helped you enjoy a more successful gardening experience. The opportunity to help gardeners find the "right plant for the right place" and a safe means of dealing with garden problems has been a real pleasure. I look forward to continuing to meet you when spending time in our stores in the years ahead.

This fall promises to be an exciting time in all our garden centres. Our usual outstanding offering of spring-flowering bulbs is now available; our annual fall tree and shrub sale starts this week; our value-packed September flier will be in community newspapers later this month; and our special Fall Harvest Festival weekend is planned for October 9 to 11. Once again, we will offer a regular series of weekend clinics, hands-on craft classes, and fun-filled activities for children. Later in the year, we will host our annual Christmas Open Houses, November 18, and the special "Chicks, Cheese and Christmas" event, December 7, at our Mandeville Gardens location.

I'll miss my daily involvement in this business, but my wife and I look forward to more time to travel, relax and spend time in our own garden. As they say in sports, "it's been a great run," and I have enjoyed almost every minute of it! Best wishes to each of you – may your gardens be beautiful, bountiful and an enjoyable place to spend some quality time.

John Zaplatynsky,  
President, **GARDENWORKS**

# Garden Agenda FOR AUTUMN

By Alan R. Reid, Ph.D., **GARDENWORKS** Botanist and Horticulturist

Autumn is a beautiful time and nothing feels better than enjoying the colourful foliage and crisp air, raking leaves (remember they make a great protective mulch) and getting the garden ready for its dormant season. Autumn is also a great time to plant many trees and shrubs, which can act as wind buffers for the garden. Think ahead: what can you do now to prepare the garden for next year? Let's talk about it.

## Things to do in September

- Plant or transplant woody ornamentals and mature herbaceous perennials.
- As the vegetable garden is harvested, plant cover crops such as fall rye. Spread manure, compost or Sea Soil™ over unplanted garden areas.
- A great selection of spring-flowering bulbs is available in our stores now. This is the time to choose your daffodils, tulips and crocuses for spring bloom.
- Divide peonies and irises. This can be tricky but one of our staff will be happy to provide advice.
- In our area it is okay to start lawns until mid October if the weather is still warm enough to let the seed germinate and establish. But why not investigate a lawn alternative? Many people are experimenting with planting clover or letting moss and other plants, such as veronica, colonize the lawn.
- Apply parasitic nematodes to soil beneath rhododendrons and azaleas that show root weevil damage (notched leaves).

## Things to do in October

- October is a great time to prepare soil for next year's garden beds. **GARDENWORKS** recommends digging manure, kelp meal and bone meal into the existing soil to replenish it. Bone meal adds phosphorus to the soil, manure adds nitrogen and kelp meal replaces micronutrients.
- This is also a good time to side-dress your existing perennials with mulch or compost. This provides some cold protection as well as nutrients to sustain your plants throughout the winter months.
- Recycle disease-free plant material and kitchen vegetable scraps into compost. Do not compost diseased plants unless you are using the "hot compost" method (120° to 150°F/50 to 65°C). Or investigate the 'Bokashi' method. Ask our staff for more details.



- This is the time to dig out all those tender bulbs, corms and tubers, such as cannas, gladiolus, begonias and dahlias. Cannas can be cut back to a few inches, cleaned of excess soil, dusted with garden sulphur and stored loosely in flats of dried peat moss in a cool, dry, dark place until spring.

Dahlias can be dug out closer to the end of October; they will be okay even if touched by a light frost. Once you have inspected them carefully and cut off or discarded any rotten, diseased or insect-riddled parts, store as you would a canna or other tender bulb.

- When all the summer bulbs are stored away there will be plenty of room to plant your spring-flowering bulbs. Don't forget to pick up a box of **GARDENWORKS** Bulb Food (3-15-8) to help encourage root development.

- Pot up and store tulips and daffodils to force them into early bloom in December and January.

## Things to do in November

- Rake up leaves and any other debris around the garden. This will eliminate possible nests or hiding places for rodents and other pests.
- Take a last look and see if there are plants that need to be cut back or trees or shrubs with broken or damaged branches to prune.
- Toward the end of October and the beginning of November, cut back your hybrid tea roses to knee height. Use a clean sharp pair of pruning shears or hedge shears and cut straight across. Then hill up a few inches of soil around roses to protect the roots.

Have a great time in your garden!

## Hands-On Workshops for Adults

Registration deadline is one week prior to class date. There is a \$10 non-refundable registration fee. Class prices vary as you pay only for the supplies you use. Visit us online for more detailed class descriptions. **Free registration for Ardent Gardener Members.**

### AT OUR LOUGHEED LOCATION

For more information or to register, please call (604) 299-0621 or e-mail [croberts@gardenworks.ca](mailto:croberts@gardenworks.ca). Receive a 10% discount on purchases made on your class day.

**Fall Transitions** Take your tired summer pot and freshen it up with some fall accents. Thursday, Sept. 30, at 6:30 p.m.

**Herb Pots with a Fall Flavour** Add accents to a herb pot. Thursday, Oct. 7, at 6:30 p.m.

**Floral Pumpkins** Hollowed pumpkins with flowers and grasses make wonderful fall accents. Saturday, Oct. 9, at 9:30 a.m.

**Our Buddy! (Family Workshop)** Make a scarecrow together. You supply the outfit; we supply the rest. Sunday, Oct. 24, at 1 p.m.

**Festive Planters (2 dates to choose from)** Create a unique seasonal display to insert in your own container. Thursday, Nov. 25, at 6:30 p.m. **or** Thursday, Dec. 9, at 6:30 p.m.

**Outdoor Wreath (3 dates to choose from)** Create a fabulous long-lasting peat wreath. Tuesday, Nov. 30, at 6:30 p.m. **or** Thursday, Dec. 2, at 6:30 p.m. **or** Monday, Dec. 6, at 6:30 p.m.

**Bow Making** Learn how to make a florist's bow and get tips on other types. Wednesday, Dec. 1, at 6:30 p.m.

**Kissing Balls** Hang it up and pucker up! Decorate an oasis ball with greens and ribbon. Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 6:30 p.m.

### AT OUR MANDEVILLE LOCATION

For more information or to register, please call 604-434-4111. Maximum 15 people.

**Harvest Table Centrepiece** Create a floral pumpkin arrangement using cut flowers. Saturday, Oct. 2, at 10 a.m.

**Makeover Madness** Bring an empty summer container and give it a fall/winter makeover. (Sorry, no moss baskets/containers.) Saturday, Oct. 16, at 10 a.m.

**Hand-Tied Bouquets** Learn the basics of creating a lovely hand-tied bouquet. Saturday, Nov. 13, at 10 a.m.

**Festive Tropicals** Make a tropical arrangement. Saturday, Nov. 27, at 10 a.m.

**Festive Floral Arrangement** Our floral designer will help you create an arrangement. Saturday, Dec. 4, at 10 a.m.



Allium

Snowdrops

## THE PROMISE OF

# Spring

By Peter Fitzmaurice, **GARDENWORKS** Hard Goods Merchandise Manager

**Are you dreaming about the promise of spring? The sight of bulbs sprouting from the cold barren earth in early spring is a joyful reminder that the world is waking up, a new season is on its way and warmer days will follow. The dark winter days will start to lengthen and crocuses, daffodils and tulips will soon be showing their faces again.**

Snowdrops and winter aconite are the earliest to bloom - midwinter here on the West Coast - while many others bloom from March onwards. These are just a few of the delightful bulbs that you can plant in fall in anticipation of celebrating spring.

Some of the most popular bulbous plants available for planting in the fall are alliums. Not only are they varied in their growing habits, but they are also unappealing to deer and squirrels. Don't quote me on this, as the young fawns will sometimes pull them out of the ground and spit them out!

One of my favourites is *Allium schubertii*, which has lavender pink eye-catching spikes borne on stalks about 40 cm (16 in.) tall. 'Ivory Queen' has wide leathery leaves that look great in an early spring planter. Its white blooms, a solid ball of the tiniest, star-shaped flowers, are on a stalk around 10 cm (4 in.) tall.

If unusual is your thing, try *Allium* 'Hair', which looks like a twisted ball of green hair on a 30 cm (12 in.) stalk! The most stately alliums are 'Globemaster' and *A. giganteum*. Growing to 95 cm (37 in.) and 120 cm (47 in.) respectively, these cultivars have dense pompoms of pink to purple flowers that always stop people in their tracks.

Now is the time to come into **GARDENWORKS** and check out the latest in spring-flowering bulbs. We also have a great selection of preselected Colourful Companions that take the guesswork out of selecting great colour combinations.



Akebono blossoms

## Birthday Blossoms - 125 Years

By Elodie Adams

"As we prepare for Vancouver's 125th anniversary, please join me in congratulating the Vancouver Cherry Blossom Festival on this year's celebration and the 3,000 new flowering Birthday Blossom cherry trees being made available to property owners. These commemorative trees will serve as a legacy for Vancouver residents and visitors to enjoy for the next 125 years!" Mayor Gregor Robertson, City of Vancouver.

Mayor Robertson is right, and these young akebono saplings - the most disease-resistant of the cherry blossom cultivars and kwanzans - are on sale now for only \$40.

Fall is the time when we dream about the changes we want to make to our gardens in the spring - so why not find a spot for one of these trees? The cherry lives about as long as we do, and ours were gifted by Japan in the 1930s, so it's time to start renewing our city's cherry trees. The ornamental cherry also makes the perfect gift to mark a special occasion, such as a wedding or barmitzvah, housewarming, new venture, graduation the possibilities are endless, the results exuberant!



**Birthday Blossoms**

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CELEBRATING OUR PAST  
PLANTING OUR FUTURE

For more information, go to  
[www.vcbf.ca/birthday-blossoms](http://www.vcbf.ca/birthday-blossoms)



By Michelle Tornai, **GARDENWORKS** Visual Merchandise Manager

## The **COLOURS** of Fall

Brisk autumn evenings are a great time to appreciate the changing palette of nature as the foliage turns to warm hues of orange, red and brown. This time of seasonal transformation is perfect for sprucing up your home and garden décor.

One of the easiest ways to accomplish this is with containers. Pottery provides a splash of colour and style inside and out, and at **GARDENWORKS** we are always adding to our selection of shapes and colours to provide you with the widest possible choice.

Our outdoor planters are fired at a very high temperature to ensure they are weather-hardy. Each piece of pottery is an individual and unique creation. Some of our favourites this year are from our Tang collection, which features glazes that are slightly metallic in appearance. *(middle and bottom left photo)*

Find a planter that satisfies your style and colour preferences and plant it up with your own combination from our selection of fall annuals and perennials. The brilliant autumn shades will warm you through the colder days ahead. Nestle a few mini pumpkins or gourds into your planter and place it at the entrance to your home to welcome your guests.

Perhaps your garden needs an extra splash of interest now that the blooms of summer are over. Try placing planters with a variety of vibrant fall colours right in the garden. Nestle one or more glazed garden spheres in with your plants alongside the containers *(top left photo)*. The rich glazes of the spheres (Garden Balls) combined with the colours of your containers and our amazing selection of fall-toned plants, will add sparkle and charm to your fall garden.

The vibrant colours of our indoor pottery *(top right photo)* can enliven the interior of your home as well. The glazes come in a range of rich, vibrant deep blue, green and burgundy, as well as the basic black, white and brown to suit any décor. Combine a kalanchoe with a chrysanthemum, mix in a few tropical plants and you have a beautiful mixed indoor container that brings fall colours inside.

As the days get shorter and the evenings colder, take this opportunity to transform your home – inside and out – into a warm and cozy oasis for the cold days ahead.



**Customer  
Appreciation Days**  
AT ALL SEVEN LOCATIONS  
**15% discount\***  
on everything in the store! Held on the third Thursday of each month.  
\*Sale excludes Landscape Design Services, Cafe food & beverages.  
Upcoming dates include  
**Thursday, October 21,  
Thursday, November 18  
& Thursday, December 16**

**NEW FOR 2010**

## Cinnamon Snow Winter Rose

Plant in Fall For a Spectacular Spring Display!

By Scott Pearce, **GARDENWORKS** Green Goods  
Merchandise Manager

In the past decade plant breeders have been introducing new varieties of hellebores at breakneck speed. The goal of these breeding efforts is to come up with uniform plants that offer new colours and flower forms, increased vigour and flower production and a wider window of bloom times. The GOLD COLLECTION® is a group of uniform hybrids that bloom profusely. Grow several different cultivars and have hellebores in bloom from November until May!

We're excited to offer one of the newest GOLD COLLECTION® varieties, 'Cinnamon Snow', which blooms from late December through March. Flower buds are a soft pink, opening to pale creamy yellow and then maturing to a cinnamon pink. As the season progresses flowers in each stage may be seen on the plant at the same time, producing a subtle palette of colour. Rather than nodding downwards like many hellebores, flowers face outward, maximizing the impact of their impressive floral display.

Helleborus 'Cinnamon Snow' photo courtesy Skagit Gardens

## Putting Down Roots

The Secret of Fall Planting

By Scott Pearce, **GARDENWORKS**  
Green Goods Merchandise Manager

As fall rapidly approaches, most of us take advantage of every chance we get to play outside, ever mindful of shorter days. When autumn does arrive, time spent in the garden can be quite satisfying, observing changing colours, adding seasonal interest, celebrating the year's successes and learning from the less successful, preparing for winter and adding a few new elements to the garden.

Fall is an ideal time for planting trees, shrubs and perennials. With winter on the horizon, some folks find this counter-intuitive, but soil warmed by the summer sun, combined with cool air temperatures and shorter days, encourages rapid root development, allowing new plantings to establish quickly. A healthy root system, established in fall and over the winter, allows plants to grow more robustly the following spring.

Planting instructions for fall are the same as any other season - be sure to mix compost and a handful of bone meal with the existing soil before planting, apply **GARDENWORKS** Transplant Fertilizer and water deeply to encourage healthy root growth. For detailed planting instructions, refer to our "Planting Trees & Shrubs" handout, available in-store or on our website.

Are you eager to add to your garden this fall? We are pleased to offer a fresh selection of trees, shrubs and perennials, including fall favourites and the occasional new plant too! Our annual fall tree & shrub sale is on right now!

**GARDENWORKS**

## Garden Buds Workshops for Kids

Registration deadline is one week prior to class date. Space is limited. Parent participation is required. Please visit our website or call the store location for a complete description.

### AT OUR LOUGHEED LOCATION

To register call (604) 299-0621 or e-mail  
corberts@gardenworks.ca.

**Herb Centrepiece** Create a herb display. Friday, Oct. 8, at 6:30 p.m. \$12

**The Birds Outside My Window** Learn more about these creatures. Thursday, October 14, at 6:30 p.m. \$5

**Scarecrows!** Make one. Friday, Oct. 15, at 6:30 p.m. \$10

**Pumpkin Mania** Paint a pumpkin and plant it up with flowers. Friday, Oct. 22, at 6:30 p.m. \$6

**Kitten Pumpkins** Paint small pumpkins to look like kittens. Saturday, Oct. 23, at 11:00 a.m. \$6

**Our Buddy! (Family Workshop)** Create scarecrows together. Sunday, Oct. 24, at 1:00 p.m. \$10 per scarecrow

**Halloween Candy Container** Paint a pot to store your sweets. Thursday, Oct. 28, at 6:30 p.m. \$7

**Amaryllis for Christmas** Pot up a bulb for a spectacular Christmas bloom. Friday, Nov. 5, at 6:30 p.m. \$20

**House-cleaning Plants** Plants that keep the air clean. Friday, Nov. 12, at 6:30 p.m. \$10

**Winter Gnome Home** Decorate a gnome home! Friday, Nov. 26, at 6:30 p.m. \$12

**Swag Time** Create a swag. Friday, Dec. 3, at 6:30 p.m. \$15

**Mini Festive Planters** Friday, Dec. 10, at 6:30 p.m. \$10

**Poinsettias with Panache** Greens and glitter make this plant sparkle. Wednesday, Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m. \$8

**Gift Bags** Decorate your own. Friday, Dec. 17, at 6:30 p.m. \$6

**Centrepiece for Christmas** Wednesday, Dec. 22, at 6:30 p.m. \$15

### AT OUR SAANICH LOCATION

Suitable for children ages 4 and up. Workshops are held on the following Sundays at 1 p.m. For more information or to register your child, please call 250-721-2140 or e-mail  
arice@gardenworks.ca.

**Spider Pumpkin Heads** Oct. 3

**Indian Corn Napkin Rings** Oct. 17

**Grow Your Own Corn** Nov. 7

**Painted Peanut Pot** Nov. 21

**Reindeer Art** Dec. 5

**Christmas Swags** Dec. 19

### AT OUR MANDEVILLE LOCATION

For more information call 604-434-4111.

**Pumpkin Pizzazz** Decorate a mini pumpkin or gourd to create a Harvest Buddy! Saturday, Oct. 9, at 10 a.m.

**Spiders!** Spider stories and crafts. Saturday, Oct. 30, at 10 a.m.

**The Magic of Trees** Listen to tree stories, then plant a tree seed to take home! Saturday, Nov. 6, at 10 a.m.

**Potato Printing** Make Christmas cards and tags using root veggies and paint! Saturday, Dec. 11, at 10 a.m.

**Flower Power** Decorate a flowerpot and add a poinsettia to make a special gift for mom! Saturday, Dec. 18, at 10 a.m.

# GARDENWORKS

## Free Garden Clinics

For more details on the following clinics, please visit our website at [www.gardenworks.ca](http://www.gardenworks.ca) and click on the "customer clinics" tab, or phone the specific location.

### ALL LOCATIONS

Held at all seven locations on the following Sundays starting at 1 p.m.

#### **Better Late than Never - Fall & Winter Veggie Gardening**

Winter veggie gardening is possible! Discover time-proven crops and tips to successful growing. Sept. 26

**Refresh for Fall!** Inject fresh energy into your fall displays using seasonal favourites and fabulous foliage perennials. Oct. 3

**Fulfill the Promise of Spring** Learn tricks to create stunning spring garden displays using tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and other spring-blooming bulbs in eye-catching combinations! Oct. 10

**Lasagna Planters 101** We'll show you how to create layered planters filled with a variety of spring-blooming bulbs to supply a succession of colour from early to late spring. Oct. 17

**Winter Protection for Tender Plants** We'll show you how to avoid losing your favourite plants to harsh winter weather. Oct. 24

### AT OUR LOUGHEED LOCATION

Held on the following Saturdays at 12 noon

**Herbs for Health** Discover which herbs are good for boosting your immune system and killing germs. Saturday, Sept. 25 at noon

**Cold Frames** Learn how to build a cold frame and other options to extend your growing season. Saturday, Oct. 2, at noon

**Glorious Bulb Combinations** Find out what is available and how to create your own combinations. Saturday, Oct. 9, at noon

**Water Feature Wrap-Up and Pond Shutdown** Protect your water features during winter. Saturday, Oct. 16, at noon

**Refurbishing Garden Tools** Learn how to sharpen, clean and protect your tools for next year's use. Saturday, Oct. 23, at noon

**Decorate with Flowering Bulbs** Use potted bulbs to add colour, richness and elegance to your home. Saturday, Nov. 6, at noon

**How to Use Festive Greens** Saturday, Nov. 13, at noon

**Starting Seeds for Winter Fun** Saturday, Nov. 20, at noon

**Outdoor Décor** Welcoming looks. Tuesday, Nov. 23 at 6:30 p.m.

**Hostess Gifts** Learn the ins and outs of putting something together yourself. Saturday, Nov. 27 at noon

**Potted Plants for a Mantle Display** Saturday, Dec. 4 at noon

**Table Décor** Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 6:30 p.m.

## *Tea with Victor*

### Free Clinics for Seniors

AT OUR LOUGHEED LOCATION

Free seminars for seniors, 9:30 to 11:00 on Wednesday mornings. Pre-registration is required as space is limited; call 604 299 0621.

### AT OUR CAPILANO LOCATION

Held on the following Saturdays at 1p.m.

**Growing Great Apple Trees** Get the scoop on the varieties of apple trees that grow best in the lower mainland. Oct. 9

**Preparing your Mason Bees for Winter** Learn how to clean and store your mason bees over the winter. Nov. 30

### AT OUR MANDEVILLE LOCATION

Held on the following Saturdays

**Bulbs and Tubers and Corms, Oh My!** Planting bulbs now for continuous spring bloom. Sept. 25, at 1 p.m.

**Planning the Small-Space Garden** How to use trees and shrubs in small spaces and plan for 4-season colour. Oct. 2, at 1 p.m.

**Ornamental Grasses – the Long and the Short!** Learn how to plant and care for grasses in your landscape. Oct. 9, at 1 p.m.

**Putting Your Garden to Rest for the Winter – or Not!** Grow veggies through winter. Oct. 16, at 1 p.m.

**Critters In My Cabbages!** Dr. Alan Reid will discuss gardeners' needs for new pest controls now that many chemicals are no longer available for home use. Registration required. Oct. 23, at 10 a.m.

**Planting Ornamental Berries** Attract winter birds and about other spectacular shrubs for winter show. Oct. 23, at 1 p.m.

**Pond Prep for Fall and Winter** Getting your outdoor water features winter-ready. Oct. 30, at 1 p.m.

**Chrysanthemums for Show and Pleasure** An informal talk with members of the Point Grey Chrysanthemum Society. Nov. 6, at 1 p.m.

**Making the Cut** Pruning your outdoor ornamentals for shape and bloom. Nov. 13, at 1 p.m.

**Forcing Bulbs for Holiday Colour** Learn how to force spring bulbs into bloom for the festive season. Nov. 20, at 1 p.m.

**Winter's Splendour** Using festive evergreens for spectacular winter containers. Nov. 27, at 1 p.m.

## *Autumn Leaves*

### A Creative Writing Workshop for Seniors

AT OUR MANDEVILLE LOCATION

Meet in the seminar room on the first and third Fridays of October, November and December from 10 a.m. to noon to share memories and learn tips for recording our stories to share with others. At the end, we will bind these stories and poems into booklets as keepsakes. Light refreshments will be served. Registration required.

# Winter Interest IN YOUR GARDEN

By Audrie Vander Werf, CLD.,

**GARDENWORKS**

Landscape Division Manager

What a year! It's especially great to be a Canadian this year. All pride aside, it has just been so much fun! Not only repeated gold medals in February, but a spirit that reverberated through SkyTrain cars, over Robson Square, down Highway 1 and across the nation. The public spirit continued through July: Canada's 143rd birthday was cold here in Metro Vancouver, but parks were full, flags were waving, and the Queen was on her way.

This sense of community pride carries through to our homes. Many felt this was the year to get outside and live in the garden. Procrastinators alert! It is not too late to join the movement. In fact, planning your garden late in the year helps ensure you include all four seasons in your design.



## Tips for extending the interest of your garden throughout the winter.

- Emphasize garden lines by edging beds and borders in autumn before the ground freezes.
- Define boundaries with hedges or clusters of tall evergreens.
- Select tall, coniferous shrubs to frame views and anchor corners.
- Include ornamental woody plants with attractive form, bark and fruit to provide winter interest: weeping cherry, star magnolia, birch, red- and yellow-bark dogwoods, deciduous azalea, dwarf European cranberry, roses with hips, corkscrew hazel, and my favourite: paperbark maple. Spotlight with outdoor lighting!
- Leave some upright perennials standing through the winter: showy stonecrop, coneflower, clematis seed heads and ornamental grasses.
- Add structure with hardscape elements such as arbours, trellises and willow obelisks.
- Create a seating arrangement—a bench or table and chairs—made from all-weather materials. Just viewing this from indoors is relaxing.
- Use large accent features—landscape boulders, bird baths, fountains, statuary and stone containers filled with winter boughs and branches.

Sounds easy, right? If you're unsure, call the professional designers at **GARDENWORKS** Landscape Division. Well-made landscapes are founded on sound design principles, solid construction techniques and appropriate plant selections that carry through winter. But well-loved gardens must also reflect the needs and interests of the gardener, and our designs are as individual as you are. We have the vision and experience to help you make your garden yours.

Mainland 604-629-1419  
design@gardenworks.ca

Island 250-721-2140  
www.gardenworks.ca

## **GARDENWORKS** Seven great garden centres serving you in B.C.

**NORTH BURNABY  
HEAD OFFICE**  
6250 Lougheed Highway  
Burnaby V5B 2Z9  
(604)299-0621

**NORTH VANCOUVER  
EDGEMONT**  
3147 Woodbine Drive  
North Vancouver V7R 2S3  
(604)980-6340

**NORTH VANCOUVER  
CAPILANO**  
705 West 3rd Street  
North Vancouver V7M 3E3  
(604)988-8082

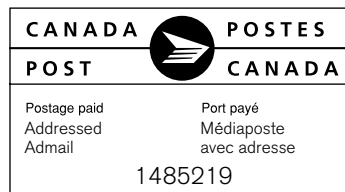
**MANDEVILLE**  
4746 Marine Drive  
Burnaby V5J 3G6  
(604)434-4111

**SAANICH**  
4290 Blenkinsop Road  
Victoria V8X 2C4  
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