



Apples, Pumpkins and more

Birchwood Orchard - Apples

206 Old Turnpike Road, Route 124, Mason, NH 03048. Phone: 603-878-0542 Email: mpierce@tellink.net.

Barrett Hill Farm

149 Barrett Hill Rd, Mason, NH 03048. Phone: 603-878-4022. Alternate Phone: 603 878 2351. Fax: 603 878 2817. Email: barrett-hill@myfairpoint.net. Farm stand is open daily from 10am to 7pm; from June 10th to September 30th.

Brookdale Fruit Farm Inc.

38 Broad Street, Hollis, NH 03049. Phone: 603-465-2240/2241/2242 Fax: 465-3754 Email: FEWhit@aol.com. Open: apples-September-October; pumpkins-September-October; cut flowers. Special Events: Domestic animals & birds-pens; seasonal fies

Currier Orchards

9 Peaslee Road, Merrimack, NH 03054. Phone: 603-881-8864 Fax: 881-9905 Email: currierselfstor@cs.com. Open: 10am-5pm, weekdays; 9 am to 6pm, weekends; Labor Day-Thanksgiving.

The Dark Crop Haunted Corn Maze at Lavoie's Farm

172 Nartoff Road, Hollis, NH 03049. Phone: 603-882-0072. Email: info@lavoiesfarm.com. Open: 7 Days/week 8:00 am to Sunset. The Dark Crop is open Fridays and Saturday evenings starting October 7th - October 29th;

Lull Farm

65 Broad Street (Route 130), Hollis, NH 03049. Phone: 603-465-7079. according to their website: Hours: Pick Your Own Apples (late August -October) Pick Your Own Pumpkins (September-October) Corn Maze (September-October) Annual Pumpkin lighting (Halloween Night & following Night). Come carve with us starting three days before Halloween!

Maple Lane Farm

35 Email: kgrybko@aol.com. Open: September & October weekends

McLeod Bros. Orchards

North River Road, Milford, NH 03055. Phone: 603-673-3544. Open: mid-August-late-October.

Sullivan Farm

70 Coburn Avenue, Nashua, NH 03063. Phone: 603 595 4560. Email: sullivanfarmllc@yahoo.com. Open: Sunday to Saturday, from 9am to 6pm September 1 to October 31.



Six Backyard Projects You Can't Skip This Fall

When it comes to caring for your yard, maintenance is crucial - especially during the fall when it needs to recover from the wear and tear of summer and prepare for winter's harsh conditions. Knowing what your lawn and garden needs from season to season not only makes it easier for you to stay organized with your list of backyard to-do's, but it also allows you to identify and treat any problems before they become bigger issues down the road.

Get your lawn and garden back in shape and ready for the coming season by completing these fall backyard projects.

1. Patch and seed - Extreme summer weather conditions like heat, excess rainfall and drought can lead to diseased or dead patches of grass throughout your yard. If you notice an affected area while inspecting your lawn, treat the problem area immediately and then reseed it. This will nourish grass, plus help it establish strong roots needed for growth in the spring.

2. Plant bulbs - Give your spring garden a head start by planting bulbs 5 to 8 inches deep, depending on the size, with the pointy end up. You can also plant bulbs in clusters. However, since bulbs can be hard to tell apart, be sure to keep the labels intact until they are planted.

3. Remove leaves and small debris - Leaves, small twigs and light dirt can quickly accumulate in your yard during the fall and if not removed, can cause soil compaction and make your yard look messy. For a quick cleanup solution, use a leaf blower to easily move debris from your lawn, driveway or patio. Opt for a blower like Troy-Bilt's new Jet leaf blower that achieves a perfect balance of speed and volume with its mixed-flow fan design, helping you clear your yard efficiently and effectively. Jet also has an optimal weight balance, so the blower is stable and easy to control. When removing leaves, make sure they are dry and wind is at a bare minimum to ensure an easy removal process.

4. Compost - Fall isn't too late to start a compost pile as it takes six months to one year to develop



into rich soil you can use in your garden. Keep in mind, compost decomposition slows down during the cooler months, which is why it is important to retain heat needed for decomposition by refraining from turning your compost pile.

5. Prune - Pruning is considered the best preventive maintenance for your trees and shrubs, particularly in the fall and late dormant season. Look to prune diseased or dying branches, but be sure not to remove unreasonably large branches. This leaves exposed stubs that can potentially cause health problems.

6. Weed - Though a year-round yard task, it's extremely important to pull as many weeds as possible in the fall. As cooler temperatures set in, weeds start to store food in their roots for the winter. Prevent weed regrowth by pulling or digging weeds out of the ground with a weeding blade or use a homemade weed control solution, such as a combination of vinegar, water and dish soap.

For more lawn and garden tips, backyard project ideas and information about the Jet leaf blower, visit troybilt.com. (BPT)

Checklist for Fall Garden and Landscape Care

by Melinda Myers

You can see and feel the change of seasons. Fall color is starting to appear, pansies, mums and asters are in the garden center and your thoughts are turning to preparing your landscape for winter.

Those in warm climates are switching to winter annuals, while those in colder regions are fortifying their landscapes for the cold winter ahead. No matter where you live, invest some time in preparing your landscape for the change in seasons. Dedicating some time now will pay off with healthier more beautiful plants next spring.

- Continue to mow the lawn high as long as it continues to grow. There's no need to cut it short unless that is the look you prefer.
- Fertilize the grass with a low nitrogen slow release fertilizer like Milorganite (milorganite.com). Fall fertilization provides the greatest benefit to your lawn and gives you the best value for the time and money invested.
- Those in cooler regions growing bluegrass, fescue and perennial ryegrass should fertilize around Labor Day when temperatures start to cool. Then make a final application between Halloween and Thanksgiving before the ground freezes.
- Those in warmer climates growing centipede, Bermuda and zoysia should also fertilize around Labor Day. However, be sure

to make the last fall application at least one month prior to the average first killing frost.

- Shred leaves as they fall. Leave some on the lawn to add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. As long as you can see the grass blades through the shredded leaves your lawn will be fine.
- Use the rest of the shredded leaves in your compost pile, as mulch on top of the soil or as a soil amendment. Just dig a two to three inch layer into the top 12 inches of annual or new planting beds. These leaves will break down and add organic matter. By spring the leaves will decompose and the garden bed will be ready to cultivate and plant.
- Plant a few bulbs now for a colorful early spring display. Incorporate compost, aged manure or other organic matter into the planting area. Add a low nitrogen slow release fertilizer at the time of planting. In general, plant bulbs two to three times their vertical diameter deep. Follow specific planting and spacing directions on the package or tag.
- Select animal-resistant bulbs to avoid squirrels digging up the bulbs and deer and rabbits eating the blooms. Daffodils, hyacinths, grape hyacinths and squills are a few to consider. Little Tommies (Crocus tommasinianus) tend to be more squirrel resistant than other crocus varieties.
- Those gardening in mild climates need low chill bulbs that will thrive and flower after a

mild winter. Or purchase precooled bulbs for winter planting and spring flowering.

- Allow disease- and insect-free perennials to stand for winter. This will increase their winter hardiness and your enjoyment. The dried leaves, stems and seedheads provide beauty for you to enjoy, seeds for the birds and overwintering homes for many butterflies and beneficial insects.
- Plant trees, shrubs and perennials. The soil is warm and the air is cool - perfect conditions for planting and establishing trees, shrubs and perennials. And for those lucky enough to garden in warm climates, add a few winter annuals.
- Continue to water the landscape as needed throughout the fall. Be sure to water evergreens and new plantings thoroughly before the ground freezes.

No matter where you live or the size of your garden, get outdoors and enjoy the beauty of fall. And be sure to invest a bit of energy now to insure your landscape is ready for the season ahead.

Gardening expert, TV/radio host, author & columnist Melinda Myers has more than 30 years of horticulture experience and has written over 20 gardening books, is also a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' web site, www.melindamyers.com, offers gardening videos and tips.

Come experience the **Devine Difference! You'll be Floored!**

For more details, visit your Mirage dealer:

For more details, visit your Mirage dealer:



www.devineflooring.com

Route 101 • W Wilton, NH • 654-5400
Tue-Fri: 10AM-6PM Sat: 10AM-4PM
CLOSED: Sundays & Mondays

Applicable on ALL standard Mirage hardwood floors from October 6 to November 29, 2014.

To get your mail-in rebate, details and promotion rules, log onto www.miragefloors.com.

■ Irrigation System Installation & Maintenance
■ Fall & Spring Cleanups
■ Water Features & Complex Hardscapes
■ Patios, Walls, & Walkways
■ New Lawns or Reseeding
■ Core Aeration
■ Fertilizing & Liming
■ Mulching & Edging
■ Hedge & Shrub Trimming
■ Weed Treatment
■ Lawn Mowing
■ Plant Maintenance

We beautify homes one yard at a time!

KNOTT'S LAND CARE

KNOTT'S LANDCARE, LLC ■ 521-7757 ■ 6 MANHATTAN DR ■ AMHERST ■ knottlandcare.com

THE FRAME DEPOT
Fine Custom Framing
Since 1975

Pumpkin Fest
Featuring: Limited Edition sports, landscape, wildlife, family & inspirational prints by nationally known artists, plus originals, cards, & prints by over 35 local artists, plus Keyes Art Group members.

See our online gallery at www.artown.com.

GIFT CERTIFICATES
ALWAYS AVAILABLE

227 Union Sq. • Milford
673-2936 • 1-888-673-2936
Tu-Fr 9-5, Sa 9-4, closed Su/Mo

We have lots of spectacular landscape and autumn themed art works, as well as beautiful jewelry and more. Shop locally!