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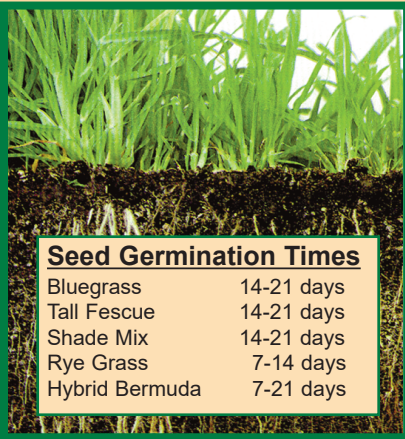
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"Landscape Design~Construction~Property Management Since 1985!"

September "Garden Tips" ~ A Perfect Month for Plant Health Care

Professional-grade Plant Health Care doesn't only preserve beautiful plants and turf, but also upgrades the neighborhood and supports the environment while you enjoy your home more.

QUICK TIPS



Seed Germination Times

Bluegrass	14-21 days
Tall Fescue	14-21 days
Shade Mix	14-21 days
Rye Grass	7-14 days
Hybrid Bermuda	7-21 days

Seeding Repairs can only be successful if water is supplied daily to germinate the seed, and available for the baby seedlings.

❑ **Summer weeds** can now be controlled whereas it was too hot before. However, there are a few weeds that can't be controlled without also killing out the surrounding grass and then reseeding, such as *nimblewill*!

Any *crabgrass* will soon die off naturally, but its presence indicates calcium is not sufficiently available.

Excess *dandelions* indicate shortage of phosphorus in the top soil.

Plantain is controlled in the spring.

❑ **Shrubs and Trees love to be planted during the fall.**

❑ **Start obtaining and planting Mums for your fall garden.**

❑ **Next to get are spring bulbs.**

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The heat of summer is coming to an end, thankfully, giving all your plants and your lawn an opportunity to recover from whatever damage they incurred. Now is probably the most ideal time of the season. The air is cool, the soil's warm, and plants don't have to withstand spikes in temperatures. Now the weather is comfortable, just right for your plants to regain strength, and to get ready for winter and next season.

Cool season turf gets tired during the summer's heat when it's subjected to surface daytime temperatures up to 140 degrees. When coupled with high nighttime temperatures, your lawn doesn't get a chance to rest; it then becomes weak and is subjected to disease damage and weeds.

Because of the ideal growing conditions in early fall, it is the perfect time to repair or upgrade lawns, or transplant shrubs that have outgrown their place, as well as to plant new trees or shrubs to make your landscape a greater picture of beauty. It's wise to take full advantage of this ideal time.

If you are planning a full landscape planting, start with a good design, perhaps allowing the landscape to be done in stages. Be sure that it meets your needs and tastes. And, don't forget, shrubs GROW. A new landscape planting "packed" with shrubs can give an immediate "effect," but plan where you can transplant the shrubs that will get too crowded in their original position after a few years.

There's a lot of concern about the health of the environment these days. You should take pride in the fact that you are contributing mightily to the overall environment's health as you build and tend to your landscape.

Carbon dioxide, a concern of many who believe that man's activities are contributing to global warming, is absorbed in great quantities by your lawn, trees and shrubbery. They use CO₂ as a necessary nutrient for their healthy growth, and in return they give off oxygen (its importance doesn't need explaining).



A healthy landscape continues to give pleasure throughout the fall.

TIME FOR LAWN RESTORING



It may be as simple as cleaning up summer weeds, or eradicating weeds like nimblewill, spot seeding, fertilizing and watering to get your lawn back up to peak condition. It will flourish with the fall weather, ready for next spring.



Or perhaps new seed varieties should be introduced because the present types of grasses aren't performing as you desire.

A plug aeration machine creates pockets in the turf where there is better seed-to-soil contact and germination.



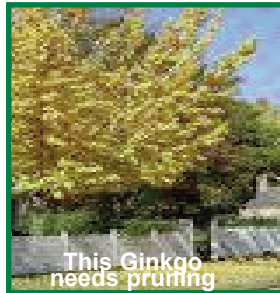
Maybe the present lawn is thin, perhaps extensive weed control was needed, and a lot of new seeding is required. A machine that cuts grooves into the soil allows new seed to get good soil contact in order to germinate to repair/upgrade the lawn.



All seeding, in order to be successful, requires a daily supply of water that first triggers germination, and then supports the new seedlings. Without water, the seedlings can easily die, and the effort and expense are wasted.

Whatever your lawn needs to be its best, and to bring satisfaction to you, it should be done in the fall. Spring is not an ideal time for seeding to try to improve your lawn. The soil is cold, so germination takes longer, and new seedlings may face heat stress and diseases before they are strong enough to resist them.

TIME FOR TREE PRUNING



Your trees have put on another year's growth, and some branches need to be removed to keep the tree shapely (such as is needed with the *Ginkgo* tree pictured here), as well as to get rid of excess branching.

Your trees should be checked yearly for broken or dead branches that need to be removed. After all, winter is coming and you don't want a dead branch torn off in a storm, taking an electric wire with it or causing damage to your roof.

We recommend arranging soon for this work to be done. The fall quickly becomes busy because other homeowners are being sure to prepare their trees for the winter weather ahead.

You should have ALL your trees and shrubs professionally checked out EVERY year! For instance, **Scale Insect Problems** can do great damage to *hemlocks*, Japanese cherries, plums, euonymus, privet, *azaleas*, and need to receive appropriate treatments now.

CREATING PRIVACY

Lattice panels can quickly and inexpensively create privacy, or can block an unappealing view.

This charming little garden getaway pictured here uses lattice panels to make the seating area cozy.

On the lattice, you can plant fast-growing, tidy, perennial or annual vines, such as *morning glory*, *cardinal vine* or *moonflower vine* (which is fragrant). This creates a private garden spot that you and your family would undoubtedly enjoy.



For Reference: Good Perennials That Are Resistant To Deer

Many of these perennials can be used to advantage in any garden because of their blooms, colored leaves and fall color. The bonus is that most deer (and rabbits) don't eat them. Of course there is no guarantee because some deer will adapt, and still munch away. If you have a deer problem, or just want beautiful flowers, try these in your garden.



Bee Balm

For Sun~

Bee Balm: red flowers all summer.

Catmint: lavender-blue flowers all summer into fall. Plant under roses.

Sea Holly: grows to 5 feet; good for cut flowers.

Turtlehead: grows to 4 feet; pink-white blossoms summer into fall.

Butterfly Weed: orange flowers all summer.

For Shade~

Brunnera: early spring blue flowers, and attractive foliage all season.

Japanese Painted Fern: for colorful foliage.

Lungwort: spring flowers with silver-white speckled leaves for all season beauty.

Amsonia: blue spring flowers and golden foliage in fall. *Partial shade.*

Lily-of-the-Valley: spring flowering jewel.

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