



## Gardening Tips for September

### September

- ❖ Water your shrubs before winter.
- ❖ Add a touch of fall to your landscape by planting hardy mums. (The Club will be selling some on Bedford Day.)
- ❖ Fall is a great time to plant trees, shrubs, bulbs, perennials, grass seed, and sod. Plants that are planted in the fall enjoy cooler temperatures and ideal growing conditions that allow roots ample time to grow into the surrounding soil.
- ❖ Cut back any perennials that have already finished blooming and continue to dead-head the later bloomers. Divide over-grown ones.
- ❖ Cut and dry hydrangea blossoms for wreaths or arrangements.
- ❖ Remember that if you do prune azaleas, rhododendrons, and other spring flowering shrubs now, they will have fewer blooms next spring. It is best to prune in the spring, right after they bloom.
- ❖ Add lime to lilacs.
- ❖ Rake the garden to avoid overwintering insects and diseases, and discard plants.
- ❖ Bring indoor plants inside before the first frost. You may need to treat them for pests.
- ❖ The best time to plant fall bulbs is late September through November. Plant in well-drained soil where there will be at least six hours of sunlight. The depth of the hole should equal 3 to 4 times the bulb height. Daffodils are usually planted nine-to-twelve inches deep. Plant them with roots down and add bone meal or bulb food. Add a mothball to discourage squirrels.