



J&L Garden Center

The All Season Gift
and Garden Center

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The Gardening Newsletter

www.JLGardenCenter.com

vol 20 issue 2

Fall 2008

Fall Gardening

Fall gardening is a very important part of how well your garden will look next spring and summer. Listed below are some of the items you may want to make sure you complete this fall.

- Fertilize lawn for the winter.
- Spray weeds, especially morning glory & dandelions.
- Reduce water to trees & shrubs, but water occasionally until snowfall.
- Mulch roses and tender shrubs after the ground freezes.
- Trim and tie up shrubs before the snow falls.
- Harvest vegetables before the frost kills them.
- Dig up and store spring & summer bulbs.
- Spray lilac, peach trees, burning bush for diseases.
- Plant tulip, daffodil, and some 'Fun Bulbs'.
- Fertilize all bulbs planted in previous years.
- Divide perennials and prepare gardens for spring.
- Spread **Bumper Crop** and roto-till this fall.
- Rake leaves & start a compost pile.
- Prepare the pond for winter.
- Enjoy the pretty fall leaves.
- Bring in the houseplants before the first frost.
- Try to *out smart* the deer this winter!



This is not a complete list and it will vary from year to year.

Make your own list of what needs to be done in your yard this fall and enjoy your fall gardening.

Garden Soil

Your garden's soil condition is the most important part of gardening success. Without the proper soil conditions, gardening can be a chore for you, and your plants will just not respond and grow the way you want them to grow. Remember, **Garden Soil is not Dirt**. Dirt is the stuff you wash out of your clothes after working in the yard. Garden Soil is a complex mixture of minerals, air, water, organic matter, microbes, and other critters. Soil is full of life and deserves your attention. With good soil, gardening will be more fun. The soil will be easier to plant in, cultivate, and it will be easier to grow your plants. Perfect soil is hard to come by in most home gardens and may take a little extra effort to achieve. The best way to improve your garden soil is by adding **Organic Materials** every year, and the best time to apply **Organic Materials** is in the fall, not in the spring. Mix as much **Bumper Crop**, manure, compost, **Soil Pep**, or other organic materials (within reason) as you can afford. You will be amazed each spring how much better your soil is than it was the previous year. Many garden soils will take four, six, or even 10 years to completely change but you will notice an improvement each year. We have an excellent handout on soils and mulches. *Please stop by and pick up your free copy, or download it from our website.*



Morning Glory Control

Wild morning glory is also known as field bindweed and devil gut. Do not confuse wild morning glory with the annual morning glory vines that are easily controlled and bloom beautifully all summer. Wild morning glory grows in almost every part of the world and is one of nature's most persistent plants, with roots penetrating to a depth of more than ten feet. It also produces seeds that may germinate over a 20 year period. Wild morning glory is a tough problem in your yard, but you can control it if you have the persistence.

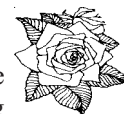


Chemical controls such as **Weed Free Zone**, **Killzall**, or **Roundup** will kill this weed - but timing is critical. Spray wild morning glory this fall as soon as the temperature lowers to 40°F, but while it is still growing. The more leaves that are present, the more effectively the chemical will be absorbed and translocated throughout the plant. Spraying after the first frost that kills your tomatoes and cucumbers is the best time of the entire year. After the first frost, morning glory starts going dormant by moving plant sugars from the leaves back down into the root system for winter storage. So, with a fall spray, you can get more herbicide down deep into the root system and kill the roots.

Although a single application of one of these weed killers will greatly reduce your morning glory infestation, you will probably not eradicate the weed with just one application, or even in one year. Young morning glory plants may arise in the spring from roots that weren't completely killed in the fall. Seeds may also germinate and grow for several years to come. Regular cultivation of your yard during the summer will give you the chance to remove these young plants before they have a chance to mature and become a real problem. We have a more detailed morning glory control handout available. Please stop by to pick one up or download it from our website.

Fall Rose Care

Don't fertilize roses in the fall. Roses need time to 'harden off' before winter arrives. Roses growing too fast in the fall have new, 'soft' growth. This 'soft' growth is prone to winter injury while the older, 'hard' growth will tolerate the winter weather. Reduce the amount of water you apply to your roses this fall, again to help them 'harden off' before winter arrives. Don't pick rose flowers any more this fall. Let the blossoms mature into rose hips. Hip formation also helps the rose bush to 'harden off' for winter.



Prune your rose canes (except climbing roses and shrub roses) down to three or four feet high after the leaves completely freeze this winter. The only reason to prune roses in the fall is to prevent the snow from breaking the canes. Wait until spring to do your major rose pruning and shaping. In the spring,

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after the danger of frost is past, prune your roses to 14" to 20" tall.

Mulch your roses to protect the roots from severely cold temperatures. Let the ground and the roots freeze first, to become dormant, before covering them. The best way to mulch roses is to pile six inches of leaves, **Soil Pep**, **Small Bark**, or garden soil around each bush. Don't use grass clippings to mulch roses. Grass clippings can create a fungus problem that can damage your rose bushes during the winter.



Fall Pruning

Fall is a good time to get your yard into shape for winter and spring. Trim your "summer flowering" shrubs (mock orange, potentilla, spiraea, etc.) after the leaves drop off but don't trim your "spring flowering" shrubs (forsythia, quince, lilac, etc.) until after they bloom next spring. If you prune your "spring flowering" shrubs now, you will be removing most of the flower buds for next spring. Remember, don't prune roses this time of year, wait until April.



You can prune some shade trees this fall, after the leaves drop. Maples, birch, willows and many other shade trees respond well to fall pruning because they 'bleed sap' if you prune them in the spring. Don't prune fruit trees in the fall unless you absolutely have to; wait until early spring to prune fruit trees, just before they start to grow (or anytime after January). Wait to prune flowering trees until after they finish blooming in the spring so you can enjoy their blossoms.

Be sure to give all of your hedges, topiary plants, and upright junipers one last trimming for the year. This final touch up can make a big difference in how they will look during the winter.

Fall Planting

Q. Is Fall a good time to plant?

A. Fall is usually the best time of the year to plant trees and shrubs. Fall plantings will: **1.** Give your plants a headstart for spring. **2.** Demand less care because of cooler weather. **3.** Provide more pleasant working conditions.



Q. When does "Fall Planting" start?

A. "Fall Planting" begins as soon as the air begins to cool and the days begin to shorten: plants decrease their rate of growth. Experienced nurserymen refer to this as the time when plants "harden off." When you feel that fall "nip in the air," it's a great time to plant!

Q. Do plant leaves stop functioning in the fall?

A. Leaf color may change slightly and the leaves may harden, but they continue to make and store food for the root system. When leaves finally change to their fall color, the food manufacturing process ends.

Q. How does the weather change affect planting?

A. Cooler weather means plants need less water. Newly planted trees and shrubs will have less transplant shock and will need less care next year.

Q. What kind of plants can I plant in the fall?

A. Most trees, shrubs, perennial flowers, grasses and roses are easily planted in the fall, as long as weather conditions are right. Be careful planting tender plants such as azalea, rhododendron, and other 'less-hardy plants' too late in the fall.

Q. How late in the fall can I plant?

A. It depends on the plant. Some trees, such as Dogwood, Magnolia, and other tender trees, should not be planted after October because they need to establish new roots before the

soil temperature drops too far. Broad-leaved evergreens should also be planted early in the fall. Most other hardy, woody, ornamental plants may be planted until the ground freezes solid.

Q. What about planting Perennial Flowers?

A. Perennial flowers are usually best planted and/or divided in the fall, before the ground starts to freeze. Don't resist planting them in the fall just because they happen to be out of bloom. They will have beautiful flowers next year!

Peach Tree Care



The peach tree borer often takes the rap for more than its fair share of trouble. Most of the time when you see sap on the trunk of a peach tree you automatically assume the tree has a borer. You are right, some of the time. Two other problems that can cause sap to ooze out of the trunk of stone fruits are **Bacterial Canker** and **Physical Injury**, both of which need to be treated differently than peach tree borer. Bacterial canker, sometimes known as Gummosis, produces sunken, dark lesions that allow sap to ooze from the affected area. This disease can kill your tree if you do not treat it. Remove the sap and scrub the entire area with **Copper Fungicide**. It is very important that you treat this problem this fall; don't wait until spring. If you see this problem during the spring or summer you should treat it every three or four weeks until the symptoms go away; but make sure it is not just damage from the peach tree borer!

Kids climbing peach trees, or extra weight loads from ripening fruit, can cause physical stress in the crotch of the tree. If enough stress is applied, some of the bark can separate and allow sap to ooze from the wound. It is not uncommon to see sap oozing from several crotches in peach trees after harvesting peaches or after a wind storm moves the heavy laden branches.

Coryneum Blight, or Shothole Fungus, is a disease that infects Peach, Nectarine, Apricot, Plum, Almond, and Cherry trees. Flowering Cherry and Flowering Plum trees are also susceptible to Coryneum Blight. Coryneum Blight is a very serious problem that can kill trees within a few years. This disease needs to be prevented rather than cured. Spray your entire tree with **Copper Fungicide** as soon as 90% of the leaves drop off the tree. Spray your tree again, with copper, just before the blossoms begin to open next spring. These two applications of copper are the most important way to help prevent this disease. You may also need to spray during the spring, with other fungicides, if the symptoms are severe. **Copper Fungicide** can also help prevent leaf spot in Quaken Aspen and blight in Lilacs and Burning Bush plants.



Dividing Perennials

One of the joys of a perennial garden is watching the plants grow and fill the spaces allotted to them. However, perennial flowers can outgrow their assigned areas quickly unless they are moved and divided periodically. Most perennial flowers do not know when to stop growing, you need to make that determination for them.



Dividing perennial flowers is not a bad thing for the plant. In fact, many plants are invigorated by dividing them regularly. Don't be afraid of breaking roots, stems, or plants as you divide them. This is a necessary evil when dealing with strong rooted plants. Don't be afraid of throwing away extra plants, or unwanted plants, or giving extra plants to neighbors. The hardy perennial flowers will take over and dominate the weaker varieties.

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ies if you don't do some refereeing. Sometimes you may even need to remove an entire plant that you don't like anymore.

Divide spring and summer blooming perennials in the fall, as soon as the temperatures begin to moderate. Divide fall blooming perennials either in the spring or after they finish blooming in the fall, if there are still several weeks of good weather before the ground freezes hard. Divide perennials as often as the plant overtakes its assigned area. You may need to divide your shasta daisy or coreopsis every two or three years. Phlox, Astilbe, and daylilies may only need to be divided every 5 to 6 years. Peonies only need to be divided every 10 to 15 years.

Fall Sprays

Winter is almost here, but not quite. You may still have a few insect and disease problems you will need to spray this fall. If you have any of these problems in your yard, stop by so we can tell you how to control them.



Euonymus & Lilac Blight - Spray burning bush and lilac plants that showed small, stunted, yellowish leaves this summer. Spray them with copper as soon as the leaves drop off this fall. Repeat the same spray just before the leaves emerge in the spring.

Boxelder Bugs - These pests are a nuisance all fall, winter and spring. They are not harmful to your home and they are hard to control. If you can kill them before they reach your house you will have much less trouble killing them. They are very difficult to control on or around the house. **Bayer Multi-Insect Spray** is one of the best sprays we have found for these pests. Spray the foundation every two or three weeks this fall.

Slugs & Snails - The best control for slugs & snails is using bait rather than spraying. **Persistence is the key.** Don't quit trying to kill these pests until the ground is frozen and the pests have gone into hibernation for the winter.

Spidermites - Spray badly infected plants (Alberta Spruce, potentilla, roses, raspberry, etc.) with a **Dormant oil** as soon as the temperature will stay below 70 degrees. The oil puts a long lasting coat on the plants that smothers eggs. Repeat the spray in the spring just as the plants begin to grow.

Aphids - These little insects range in colors from clear to black and from green to red to yellow. Aphids begin to cluster on tree trunks and in shrubs during the fall. They suck as much sap from the plant as possible to prepare for winter. Aphids are particularly noticeable on apple trees and willow trees in the fall. Spray each plant thoroughly with **Dormant Oil Spray** to control these pests.

Spiders - Spray the outside of your house with **Bayer Multi-Insect Spray**, especially around windows and doors to prevent these pests from entering your home. Once spiders are inside the house you can either use a **Spider Trap** or an indoor **Spider Spray** to try to keep them under control.

Plant Dehydration

Most plant injury during the winter is caused when the plant runs out of water (within the plant) during the cold weather. Broadleaf evergreens such as boxwood, holly, euonymus, and rhododendrons, continue to use water internally and lose water through their leaves during the winter. Daytime temperatures can be 60 to 70F which causes evergreen leaves to allow water to evaporate. If the ground is frozen, and the plant's roots cannot replace this water loss, the leaves will turn brown and die. Southern or western exposures, or windy conditions, can aggravate this problem. A layer of mulch can help prevent this type of winter injury by preventing the soil from drying out and preventing the roots from freezing solid. Spraying the leaves with an antidesiccant, such as **Wilt Pruf**, may also help prevent evaporation. Wilt Pruf is a wax that coats the leaves and prevents water loss through the leaf pores.



Changing Leaf Colors

The process of leaves changing color and falling off a tree is an actual growth process. The plant uses energy to complete the process. A healthy plant drops its leaves; a dead plant doesn't lose its leaves.



During the growing season, leaves appear green because the plant is producing abundant quantities of chlorophyll. As the amount of daylight decreases in autumn, chlorophyll production slows down and then stops completely, enabling the carotenoids and anthocyanin pigments to appear. Moisture and temperature also influence how fast the color change will occur and how brilliant the change will be. Colors are their brightest when warm fall days are accompanied with very cool nights (below 45 degrees but above freezing). An early fall, with adequate moisture conditions, stimulates brilliant red and purple color changes. The yellow and brown colors will always be brilliant no matter what the weather is, but the reds and purples will vary from year to year. Watch the mountains, some years the colors are brilliant. Other years the colors seem to fade fast. The temperature and moisture conditions determines how long the colors stay vivid. The cooler and wetter the conditions are, the longer the colors will remain brilliant.

Early Leaf Color

Each year we look forward to trees and shrubs turning color and standing out in the yard with their impressive display of colorful leaves. However, if the plant changes color too early, it could be a warning sign that the plant is under unusual stress. A closer look at the plant might be warranted, especially if your plant started changing colors in August or early-September.



Weather conditions are a big factor that contributes to stress in plants. This past summer was one of the hottest and driest summers on record and has certainly stressed out many trees and shrubs, especially those near streets, driveways and parking lots. Leaf scorch is very noticeable this fall along with some trees turning color prematurely. Make sure to deep water trees at least once a month until winter, to help these trees overcome their stress and survive the winter.

Early fall color can also be caused by root or trunk problems. Root problems can include; cultivating too close to the plant, covering the drip line with too much extra soil, too much fertilizer or other chemicals in the soil, and the most common problem - too much or too little water. Trunk problems can include damage from lawnmowers or string trimmers, mouse or gopher damage, splitting bark from previous injuries, a string or wire tied around the trunk to hold it up straight, or even a string used to hold the burlap on the rootball when it was first planted.

Plant diseases also cause stress to plants that can make them turn color prematurely. A common problem for both burning bush and lilac plants is a blight disease. Many of these plants are infected by this disease and may actually die from it if they are not treated. The best control for blight diseases is to spray the trunk and branches of both the infected and non-infected plants with **Copper Fungicide** as soon as 90% of the leaves have dropped off the plant. Spray the plant again with **copper fungicide** just before the leaves emerge in the spring. Fertilize all your plants heavily each spring, before they start to grow, and fertilize any weak plants every three to four weeks all summer.



Winter Care Of Houseplants



Just as we slow down as the days shorten, so do houseplants. In order to keep your houseplants happy and healthy through the Fall and Winter, give your houseplants a little extra attention, some TLC. Here are a few pointers to keep in mind.

When bringing plants inside after spending the summer on the porch or patio, it's a good practice to spray your plants with an all-purpose insecticide, such as **Safer Houseplant Insect Spray**. It is best to spray plants at least twice - at one week intervals, to make sure you have killed all of your unwanted guests. If you find you have insects crawling out of the soil, sprinkle **Systemic Insecticide Granules** on top of the soil and that should take care of those creepy crawlers.

Try to place your plants in light conditions similar to those outside. They will go through a short acclimation period because the inside of your home is much darker than the outside. Don't place a plant that has been in the direct sunlight into a dark corner. Don't be afraid to prune your plants. Houseplants like the hibiscus, ivy, philodendrons, and bougainvilleas can tolerate a heavy pruning. Pruning also allows your blooming plants to take a short rest before they start to bloom again.

Remember that the water and fertilizer requirements for your plants will be reduced through the winter and you will have to re-adjust your schedule. A plant that needed watering once a week outside may need only to be watered once every two weeks when inside. When winter really sets in and you turn your furnace on, it will affect the amount of water your plant requires; dry, warm air means the plant will dry out more quickly. One of the biggest "killers" of houseplants is over-watering. While you should check your plants once a week, they won't necessarily need water every week. To increase the humidity for your plants, group them together or place them on trays with gravel and water. Misting is helpful but the effects are short term. Turning on a humidifier, especially if you have ferns, is most beneficial. Fertilize your plants once a month during the winter with **Schultz Liquid Plant Food**, instead of every two weeks like you fertilized them during the summer.

Get in the habit of turning your plants weekly (rotate the pot half a turn) to prevent them from becoming one-sided or leaning toward the light. Ficus trees are notorious for being lush and full on one side and flat and skimpy on the other if they are not rotated.



Hopefully, these tips will help your house plants thrive this winter and help to convince you that you too can be a successful indoor gardener.

Tulips & Daffodils



Fall bulbs are perhaps the easiest of all flowers to plant, grow, and have bloom. It is almost impossible to make a mistake planting fall bulbs, because all the nutrients the bulbs need to bloom are already stored inside the bulb before you buy them. To keep bulbs healthy year after year requires a little more care. The most important steps for planting and keeping bulbs healthy are: **1. Prepare the soil before planting. 2. Choose healthy bulbs. 3. Plan your design. 4. Plant bulbs properly. 5. Take care of your bulbs properly after they bloom.** *The hardest part about planting bulbs is deciding which bulbs you like best and knowing when to stop buying bulbs.* Although individual

tulip bulbs will only bloom for a week or two, you can enjoy blooming tulips from early-April through late-May if you plant several different varieties. With the proper planning, your tulip garden can be fun and colorful for 8 to 12 weeks each spring.

There are so many kinds of tulips. How do you know which ones to choose? They vary by color, blooming time, height, and flower form. The **Royal Horticultural Society** and the **Dutch Flowerbulb Industry** have classified tulips into 13 different categories. Some categories are based on genetic heritage and some are based on flower form. It is a flawed system and some tulips could fit into two or three different categories, but at least it standardizes terminology.

1. Emperor Tulips (*fosteriana tulips*). *These are among the first tulips to bloom each spring. They are relatively short stemmed tulips. They sometimes bloom while snow is still on the ground or they may be covered by an inevitable late spring snow storm.*

2. Kaufmanniana Tulips (rock garden tulips). *These tulips are very short stemmed varieties. They usually grow 4" to 6" tall and have full sized blossoms. They usually bloom when the crocus are blooming in the yard.*

3. Greigii Tulips. *These tulips are very short stemmed tulips similar to the Kaufmanniana. Most greigii tulips are mid season bloomers. They have mottled foliage and large flowers. These too are rock garden tulips.*

4. Single Early Tulips. *These tulips are medium height varieties that bloom after the Emperor Tulips but before the Darwin and Triumph varieties.*

5. Triumph Tulips. *These varieties have the broadest range of colors. They have many soft shades, bicolor varieties and vivid bright colors. These tulips are medium height. They usually grow 14" to 18" tall. They are mid to late bloomers.*

6. Darwin Hybrid. *These tulips are the most popular and versatile varieties. They have strong, vibrant colors. The bulbs are large and hardy and will perennialize for several years without having to dig them, where the conditions are right. These varieties are mid to late season bloomers. They grow quite tall, usually 20" to 24" tall.*

7. Single Late Tulips. *These tulips are tall, late blooming varieties. These varieties are valuable in making the transition from early bulb gardens to the summer flower gardens. They often overlap the planting time of summer annuals.*

8. Double Tulips (Double early and Double Late). *These tulips are double petaled types similar to their single blooming cousin. They grow tall and will bloom during the same time as the Single Early and Single Late varieties. They are often called Peony Flowering Tulips because the blossoms resemble peony blossoms.*

9. Lily-Flowering Tulips. *These tulips have strongly pointed flower tips. There are not many colors, but the blossoms add variety to the garden. These tulips often bloom late.*

10. Parrot Tulips. *These tulips are floral freaks that have been popular for years. The feathery petals add an informal look to the bulb garden. Parrot tulips, along with many of the other specialty (unusual varieties), are not very long-lived in the garden. Several types of specialty tulips seem to fade away after several years in the garden, unless they are fertilized heavily each year, and divided frequently.*

11. Bouquet Tulips. *These tulips produce several flowers on each stem. The blossoms are a little smaller than other varieties but it makes up by having more flowers per bulb.*

12. Species Tulips. *These tulips are non-hybrid tulips. The flowers are often small and the stems are usually short; up to 9" tall. These tulips naturalize extremely well and are great in areas where they can be mass planted.*

13. Fringed Tulips. *These tulips are similar to parrot tulips in that they are floral freaks. They have normal tulip shaped buds but the tips are very frilly and lacy. They are usually tall growing and are mid-season to late-blooming. There are only two or three different colors available in the fringed varieties.*

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Deer love to eat tulips but they will not eat daffodils or hyacinths. If you want to enjoy the flowers you plant, instead of feeding the deer, you may decide to plant a pretty Daffodil Garden or Hyacinth Garden this fall. Daffodils are available in many different colors including white, yellow, gold, and orange. We have several different varieties to choose from. Hyacinths are available in red, yellow, white, pink, orange, and in different shades of blues and purples.

Daffodils are native to the Mediterranean area. They were grown by the Egyptians and Greeks. Daffodils were brought into the English gardens in the 1500s. By the 1600s about 50 cultivars of daffodils were commonly grown. By the early 1800s about 400 cultivars were available. Between the 1800s and the early 1900s another 1,000 cultivars were developed. From the early to mid 1900s about 6,000 more cultivars were hybridized. Today we have more than 24,000 different cultivars to choose from, if you can find them all. Many of these cultivars have only slight differences and the common daffodil grower would not notice any difference. Just like tulips, the **American Daffodil Society** and the **Royal Horticultural Society** have created several different classifications of daffodils.

1. **Trumpet** - The center cup is as long or longer than the petals.
2. **Large Cup** - The center cup is about the same size or up to 1/3 larger than the petals.
3. **Small Cup** - The center cup is about the same size or smaller than the petals.
4. **Double** - The center cup has multiple layers and there are multiple rows of petals.
5. **Triandrus** - The flower cup hangs and the petals sweep back.
6. **Cyclamineus** - The petals sweep back.
7. **Jonquilla** - The center is a very small cup. They have very fragrant flowers.
8. **Tazetta, Poetaz** - The flowers have very small cups. They are bunch-flowering and fragrant.
9. **Poeticus** - The flowers have white petals, small 'eyes', late blooming, and they are usually fragrant.



Bulb Tips

Deer do not like the smell of Blood Meal, Milorganite Fertilizer, many deodorant soaps, human hair, lion manure, coyote urine, and many other household products. If the deer do not like the smell in your garden, they may leave your plants alone and visit your neighbor's gardens instead.



Mice, squirrels and gophers may also enjoy eating many of your bulbs. If these rodents are a problem, do not use bone meal when planting your bulbs, the animals, including your dog, may think there is a buried bone waiting to be discovered. Use either Blood Meal or a Bulb Fertilizer that does not contain bone meal.

Bulb Augers

Bulb augers help take the chore out of planting bulbs and flowers. Bulb augers can also make planting petunias and marigolds fun and easy next spring. Using a bulb auger you can plant up to 300 bulbs in one hour. We have two different styles of bulb augers available for rent or purchase. One style is for digging holes while standing up. The other style lets you dig your holes while you are on your knees. Both styles work great. The main problem with bulb augers is once you start you won't be able to stop. You may have to plant more flower bulbs than you planned on.



Fun Bulbs!

Once you've nestled those tulip and daffodil bulbs in their proper holes and patted earth on top you can rest happily knowing their flowers will appear each spring for years to come. Now is the time to try some new, unusual, **Fun Bulbs!**



Puschkinia start blooming very early in the spring. As the weather gets warmer, they shoot up to their full height of 6 inches. The clusters of striped blue-and-white blossoms stay in flower for a month or more then quickly fade without leaving a mess. Plant them above other bulbs so they will bloom together.

Scilla sibirica have small blue bells. They prefer shade and these bulbs will even thrive under other plants.

Muscari - Grape Hyacinth are perhaps the most vigorous of the spring blooming bulbs. The little blue flowers pop up in groundcover areas, flower gardens and even in the lawn.

Galanthus often called snowdrops, are the first of the bulbs that bloom in wintertime undeterred by onslaught of snow and ice. Their frosty white bells emerge close to the earth on short 3" to 4" stems. To enjoy their sweet scent bring a bunch inside where the warm air will release their perfume.

Species Crocus are long-lived crocus. They are the ancestors of the hybrid crocus. They do not have as large of blossoms as hybrid crocus, but they multiply more rapidly.

Bulbs Not Blooming?

Unfortunately, there are numerous reasons why tulips, hyacinths and daffodils might not bloom! Here's a check list for you to look at. See if anything fits your gardens.



1. **Bulbs have not been 'fed' in a couple of years.** Fertilize both in the fall and again when leaves emerge in the spring.
2. **Bulbs are planted in a 'too-shady' area.** Bulbs will bloom the first year after you buy them but they may not bloom again if they do not receive enough sunlight. Most bulbs need at least an half-day of sun to produce flowers.
3. **Bulbs are in competition for food with other plants.** Planting bulbs under evergreen trees or with other fast-growing plants limits the food they can get. Result: weak plants and no flowers.
4. **Bulbs are planted in an area with poor drainage.** Most bulbs love water but must have good drainage. They do not grow well where the water puddles. In wet conditions they are weakened by "basal rot" fungus, or other diseases, and may die. Diseased plants usually have light-green leaves, malformed leaves and stems, and few, if any, flowers. Basal rot fungus is incurable so you need to dig and discard the bulbs.
5. **Plant leaves were cut too soon the previous year.** Bulbs replenish their food reserve for about six weeks after they bloom. The leaves should not be cut off until they start to lose their green color and turn yellow. This color change signifies the completion of the bulb rebuilding process.
6. **Bulbs may be stressed from transplanting.** Some varieties seem to skip a year of blooming if dug and replanted into a different environment.
7. **Some varieties grow well in one region but do not grow well in other regions.** Ranunculus, for example, grow well in warm climates but struggle in this area.
8. **The bulbs may have a virus.** Many plant viruses attack bulbs. Over time, infected plants lose their vigor. They produce smaller, weakened leaves and stems, stop blooming, and they

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finally die. Viruses are contagious to other bulbs and are incurable. Dig and throw away the infected bulbs.

9. Growing conditions the previous Spring may have been inhospitable so the rebuilding of the bulb was affected. An early heat wave, or the lack of water may have shut down the bulb rebuilding process before it was complete.

10. Bulbs may have been growing in the same spot for 'too many' years and need dividing. Many bulbs normally divide every year or two. This results in clumps of bulbs that are competing for both food and space. Bulbs in compacted clumps tend to quit blooming. Dig the bulbs when the foliage has yellowed. Separate them into individual bulbs and replant them. You may replant immediately after dividing, or you may dry the bulbs in the shade, store them in mesh bags, and replant the bulbs in the Fall.

11. Bulbs may be out to get you! This is the case when you give them away in frustration and they bloom wildly for the new recipients.

Pine Tree Care

Each September and October we receive many calls from gardeners concerned about the lower needles, and the inner needles, of their pine trees turning yellow and brown. Do not be alarmed if your pine trees, yews, junipers, and arborvitae plants shed their innermost needles. This is natural each fall - the inside needles will turn yellow and then drop off the branch. More needles will turn yellow and drop off a plant after a stressful summer than after a normal summer. Don't be too surprised if a lot of needles turn yellow and drop off your plants this fall because of the hot summer weather. **Fall Needle Drop** is just a natural part of gardening.



We recommend that you do not fertilize deciduous trees and shrubs in the fall, but, if you have a pine tree or spruce tree that does not have good color or that appears to be under stress, go ahead and fertilize it with a good tree or shrub fertilizer that contains iron. Fall fertilizer does not stimulate new growth and harm pine trees the same way it can damage deciduous plants.

Be sure to water your pine trees occasionally during the fall, at least until the snow begins to fall. Evergreen plants need more water and a little more attention than deciduous plants.

Fall Lawn Care

Trees are dropping their leaves and it is important to prevent leaves from laying on your lawn very long. Leaves will shade the grass and can even kill the lawn during the winter. In addition, leaf cover stimulates a winter lawn disease known as snow mold. The easiest way to dispose of these unwanted leaves is to simply mow them, bag them, and use them as compost in your gardens. Continue to mow your lawn at 1.5" to 2" long until the last time you mow your lawn for the year; then cut it as short as your lawn mower will go.



Many lawn weeds are still growing right now. **Fertilome Weed Free Zone** is a good spray to kill most weeds in the lawn including dandelions, morning glory, and clover. **Weed Free Zone** will not kill any 'grassy weeds'; just the 'broadleaf weeds'. It is very hard to control the grassy weeds (crabgrass, foxtail grass, barnyard grass) this time of year. If you have any of these types of grassy weeds just pull as many as possible and apply **Crabgrass Control** in the spring to prevent these types of weeds next year.

October is usually a good time to fertilize your lawn. However, you may want to postpone your winter fertilization until November if the weather is hot and dry. Fertilizer stimulates grass to grow faster, which in turn makes the lawn require more water. A fertilized lawn will struggle and turn brown faster in the fall than a neglected lawn, unless a consistent source of water is available. Fertilize your lawn with either **J&L Fall & Winter Lawn Food** or **Dr. Earth Lawn Fertilizer** as soon as mother nature starts supplying a consistent source of water for your lawn this fall (or winter).



J&L is Open All Winter!

Come and see our great selection of Thanksgiving Decorations and Christmas Decor. By Halloween, our Garden Center is transformed into a Christmas Wonderland. We have 12 different styles of Nativity Sets, Indoor and Outdoor Christmas Lights, Artificial Christmas Trees, Garlands, Wreaths, and many more exciting Christmas decorations. We also have an excellent selection of the popular **'Willow Tree'** Sculptures by Susan Lordi. Our fresh wreaths and fresh-cut Christmas trees always arrive the day after Thanksgiving so they are perfect for the Christmas Season.



Amaryllis Bulb Care

Amaryllis are one of the popular winter blooming flowers. They are very striking and colorful. Amaryllis bulbs are extremely easy to grow, even for people that normally kill their other houseplants. Amaryllis bulbs make the perfect gift to help keep your family gardeners busy during the winter. They also make great gifts for friends and neighbors. Amaryllis bulbs are easy to take care of and you can almost watch them grow. With the proper care you can have your amaryllis bulb bloom year after year.



Amaryllis are available in many different colors ranging from white to pink to red. **Red Lion** and **Orange Sovereign** are two of our most popular varieties, but we also have 12 other varieties to choose from. Amaryllis bulbs are available in different bulb sizes ranging from 26cm to 40cm size. The number of blossom stems and blossoms will vary with each amaryllis bulb, but you can expect more blossoms with bigger bulbs. One or two blossom stems are common on the small (28cm) size bulbs, while three or four blossom stems are usual on the medium size (34cm) and four or five blossom stems are possible on the larger size (40cm) bulbs. **The blossoms will not be any larger on bigger bulbs, you will just have more of them.**

**J&L Gardening
Coupon**

**\$5.00 Off
One**

(Any Size)

Amaryllis Bulb

**Buy More
Amaryllis Bulbs
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Halloween,
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