



Parkland Nurseries Garden Centre Ltd.



Preparing for Fall...

Fall will soon be upon us, bringing cooler weather that is ideal for planting trees, shrubs, perennials and bulbs. Plant them now and the roots will become well established for a great start in the spring. As summer gives way to fall, it's an opportunity to add a fresh autumn look around our homes to lift our spirits just like the refreshing fall breezes. Parkland Garden Centre continues to carry an excellent selection! As well, we continue to have an extensive selection of garden statuary to add interest to your outdoor garden. Great for gift giving! Looking for a gift for that "hard to buy for person"? Remember that Parkland Garden Centre has gift certificates available for the new home owner, newlyweds, courses, or any occasion.

Did You Know...?

Canadian Thanksgiving does not have the same legendary beginnings as the American holiday, but neither is it a pale copycat moved earlier to suit the earlier harvest. Thanksgiving in Canada has a mish-mash of traditions, but the present-day holiday was declared by the Federal Government in 1957.

Cornucopia or horn of plenty has its origin in ancient Greece. According to mythology, it was a goat's horn with magical powers that would grant the bearer whatever he wished. Today it's usually depicted as a horn-shaped wicker basket. Good thing: all those fruits and vegetables wouldn't fit in a goat horn.

Sage has been valued since ancient times as an antiseptic, astringent and antibiotic. It was also expected to ward off evil, plague and snakebites. More recently, it is being tested as a treatment for Alzheimer's. So don't forget to add some to your stuffing!

When's the best time to plant shrubs? Fall is the perfect time to plant shrubs. Plants may not put on a lot of stem growth before winter, but that's okay because the roots will continue to grow as long as the ground is not frozen. Late-season root growth will result in a strong flush of top growth the following spring.

What is the best time of the year to prune? The best rule of thumb is to prune shrubs just after they're done blooming. This allows your plants time to form new flower buds for the next bloom season. If you can forgo flowers for a year, you can prune at any time of the year, except August and September.

To Do List for September/October

✓	This is the last chance to lift, divide and replant irises.	✓	Make a list of fall bulbs to acquire and then purchase as required. Plant fall bulbs as soon as possible.
✓	Continue weeding; place any weeds that have gone to seed in the garbage (not your compost pile).	✓	Following overnight frosts, mist tender flowers with sprinkler before the sun touches them; you may save some.
✓	Deadhead annuals and some perennials for continued bloom. Some decorative seed heads can be left.	✓	Cut flowers that preserve well and save them for winter containers. Globe thistle, baby's breath and nigella all preserve well.
✓	Continue fertilizing annual plantings and containers.	✓	Reduce watering, thereby encouraging improved winter hardiness. Do final soak in mid-October.
✓	Discontinue fertilizing trees, shrubs, roses and perennials.	✓	Take geranium cuttings, etc. before the first frost.
✓	Stop deadheading hardy roses in late August.	✓	To keep containers going as long as possible, cover them or place them indoors if frost is predicted.
✓	Carefully remove mildewed or black-spotted foliage and place in plastic garbage bags for disposal.	✓	Make notes of successes and failures in the garden this year to assist with planning for next year's garden during the winter
✓	Assemble a supply of frost covers. Old towels, sheets, etc. can be used.	✓	Pond Maintenance when water lilies go dormant, lift and store in plastic bags in cold room.

Be sure to visit Parkland Garden Centre to see our fall displays, have our horticulturists answer all your questions, and check out what's new!

Fall - Garden Hints

Outdoor Activities:

- It's a great time to plant trees and shrubs as the soil is warm so the roots grow and become established quickly. The days are cooler so the soil is not drying out too quickly. Don't forget to incorporate bone meal or apply transplanting fertilizer when planting.
- At the end of the month September apply a cover crop or green manure such as fall rye to those areas of soil that need improving; this adds nutrients as well as improving the overall structure of the soil.
- Lift bulbs, allow them to dry naturally out of the rain and sun, until all of the leaves and stems have fallen or dried out. Cut off any remaining stems and leaves. Rub off remaining soil from the bulbs and store in a paper bag in dry peat moss or vermiculite in a cool, dry place over winter.
- Spinach can still be sown in September for early spring harvest. Fall seeding of other vegetables and flowers can be done in late October for spring germination.
- Fall is a good time to sow lawn seed and to apply a fall application of lawn fertilizer.
- Apply aluminum sulphate to the base of hydrangeas if you want blue blooms next summer. Add dolomite lime to make them pink.

Indoor Activities:

- If you have kept a poinsettia from last Christmas – in September start giving it 12 hours of darkness each day for the next eight weeks to promote bract colour for Christmas.
- In October, keep your Christmas cactus dry and cool, then resume watering and increase temperature once flower buds form.
- In November, reduce fertilizer applications to houseplants by using half the strength and half as often.

Statuary in Design!

If you think art is only for hanging on walls in your home, you haven't seen the growing trend in garden decoration. Whether it's a three-foot Buddha statue, a half dozen strategically placed engraved tiles or a rusty old gate, gardeners are adding personal style and flair in many new and interesting places. Well-placed art gives added dimension and personality to any garden. And the art choices should be a reflection of your personality and your lifestyle.

Parkland Nurseries & Garden Centre carries an extensive array of statuary, birdbaths and fountains from which you can choose. Come in and see for yourself!

Do you want the tranquil relaxing sound of moving water in the garden without the maintenance! We have all of the supplies for you to create a beautiful water feature of your own. Please contact our Specialist for the knowledge and expertise to assist you with your project. Plan now for next year!

Avoiding Winter Damages

It has been determined that the wide spread winter die-back we saw last spring was due to a combination of three things:

- 1) Recurrent periods of drought in recent years weakens the plants
- 2) Unusually warm September – results in reduced hardening off of plants in fall
- 3) Most damaging was the unusually cold snap at Thanksgiving 2009, when the plants were not ready for it yet

How can we reduce the chances of this happening again?

- 1) Encourage healthy growth by controlling pests and diseases and watering and fertilizing in May, June and early July.
- 2) Any pruning required should also be carried out before mid-July.
- 3) Stop fertilizing and reduce or stop watering and pruning after August 1 to encourage hardening off and to prepare trees and shrubs for the upcoming cold season.
- 4) Fall fertilizing should not be done until mid-October and then use a good slow-release fall fertilizer.
- 5) Fall watering in of trees and shrubs, especially evergreens and birches, is very beneficial but should not be done until mid-October.
- 6) Mulching and covering of perennials and small shrubs can be done in mid-October using coarse, dry material such as peat moss, shredded bark mulch, wood chips, etc. Mulch covering should always be left in place until late April.

Fall-Winter Calendar of Events

Date	Course	Time	Fee
Sept. 24	Blooming Bulbs by Christmas	11:00am-12:00pm	\$25 includes supplies/ handout
Oct. 1	Pruning Basics	1:00pm-4:00pm	\$40.00 includes book
Oct. 1	Winter Survival in the Prairie Garden	1:00pm-2:00pm	\$5 includes handout
Oct. 15	Preparing Your Pond for Winter	10:00am-11:00am	\$5

October 29	Happy Houseplants	10:00am-12:00pm	\$15 includes book
Nov. 3	Christmas Preview/ Sinamay Demonstration	7:00pm – 9:00pm	
Nov. 5	Rustic Wreaths	2:00pm – 4:00pm	\$45.00 includes supplies
Nov. 12	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank
Nov. 19	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank
Nov. 26	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank
Dec. 3	Creative Christmas Workshops	9:45am-5:30pm	Assorted
Dec. 10	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank
Dec. 15?	Ice Sculptures	Weather Dependent	

Planning a Ladies Night Out? Need a Christmas activity for your November or December meeting of your group or club? We will organize a workshop or demonstration to suit your group on most weekday evenings. This would be held in the festive “Christmas in the Country” setting of our garden centre. Please call 403.346.5613 to make arrangements. Schedules fill quickly, so book early.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Payment must be made in full at time of registration. Visa, MasterCard, Interac, or cash accepted.

REFUND ISSUED ONLY IF CLASS IS CANCELLED.

Prices do not include GST. Class sizes are limited, pre-registration required, adults only unless otherwise noted.

For more information call Parkland Garden Centre at 403.346.5613
email info@parkland.ca or visit our website www.parklandgarden.ca.

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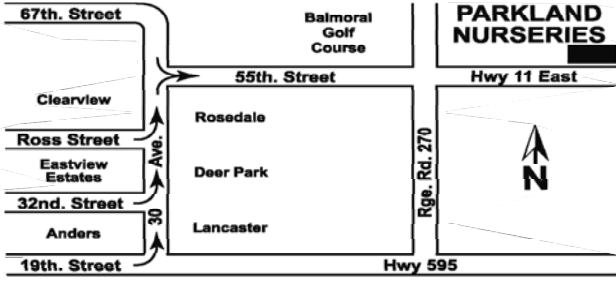
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