



Parkland Nurseries Garden Centre Ltd.



Preparing for Winter...

Another year of gardening is once again behind us. Now we find ourselves thinking, planning, and preparing for the winter season. The staff is busy preparing the Garden Shop with all those wonderful festive season gifts, plants, decorations, ornaments, trees and so much more.

Rain Chains...

Rain-chains are a practical way of carrying rain water from a roof gutter to the storm-drain system while using and enhancing the natural beauty of the flowing water. These delightful chains of linked cups make flowing water visible and are a decorative alternative to closed gutter down-spouts.

Did You Know...? We recycle plastics!

We re-use all of our bedding plant flats – we even issue credit for your used mesh-bottom flats when you return them. We also re-use some of our plastic pots. Best of all – we have found a company that will take all the used plastic containers and product wrapping and convert it into a form usable by plastic product manufacturing companies. So, if you're cleaning up the garage, garden shed or backyard, and don't know what to do with all the plastics, bring in any and all of your flats and pots and earn a bit of credit for the flats only. If we all work together, we can make a difference for our great outdoors!

People may use recycled glass or colorful rocks as an eco-friendly way to brighten the garden, add texture or for use as valuable mulch. A hard mulch will deter animals like cats and dogs from fussing with the soil, prevent weeds, protect roots from hot and cold conditions and help the plants retain water. When used on indoor tropicals, the recycled glass or rocks will prevent pests from laying eggs on top of the soil and allow for dust to be easily rinsed away.

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!

Feed Your Plants – Choosing the right fertilizer...

1. What kind of fertilizer should I be using?

Water soluble fertilizers are mixed with water for instant release and then applied using a watering system or with a watering can. Slow release fertilizers (usually small pellets) need time to break down but provide nutrients for several months. Controlled release fertilizers look like slow release fertilizers but release their nutrients depending on the temperature.

2. Can I combine different types of fertilizer?

Be sure to always follow the directions on the package, but there are times when it makes sense to supplement one fertilizer with another. For example, if you have plants in pots that need a lot of nutrition you may want to use a slow release fertilizer every couple of weeks to boost the nutrition level. If your plants have been hit with a very heavy rain, an application of water soluble fertilizer will provide nutrition to your potting mix and help bring plants back to life. If your plants have grown very large, supplemental water soluble fertilizer also may help them maintain lush growth.

3. How do I apply the fertilizer?

Apply the fertilizer according to the method described on the package. You may want to add a slow release fertilizer once a month (or even longer depending on the fertilizer). Remember, when it comes to fertilizers, more is not necessarily better, so be sure you measure accurately.

Tips to Take the Guesswork Out of Watering...

1. Check first to see if your plant needs water by Checking the Surface of the soil. If the surface of the soil is dry to the touch, water your plants.
2. If planting in a pot, make sure your pot has Drainage Holes. Water until water comes out of drainage holes.
3. Water slow and deep less often rather than a little bit more often. A half gallon a week should work for a 10-inch diameter container.
4. Keeping soil too wet will cause disease problems. Water plants in the mornings, when soil can dry faster, rather than at night.
5. Don't allow your pot to sit in standing water.
6. Adjust for weather. Early in spring when your plants are smaller and temperatures are lower you may have to water every three or four days. As the plants get larger and the mercury creeps higher, be prepared to water every day or even twice a day. During windy days, you might have to water more frequently.

To Do List for October

✓	Before the first frost, bring houseplants that have summered outdoors inside, first inspecting for freeloading insects.
✓	Fertilize lawns with a winterizing formulation, such as 26-3-12, in late fall.
✓	Toss container-grown annuals – potting soil and all – into the compost bin.



Facts about Bulbs, Mums, and Asters...

Gardeners may no longer have to worry about how deep to plant flower bulbs this fall. According to a study at Cornell University, some bulbs are actually able to adjust themselves to the correct depth. Apparently, when necessary, some bulbs form special contractile roots that pull them farther into the soil where growing conditions are optimal. It's believed they are able to sense their depth based on light signals. Bulbs displaying this behavior include tulips and lilies.

For best success, overwintering mums requires a little advance planning and choosing the hardiest varieties. Many decorative, potted fall mums are poor candidates to overwinter because they lack hardiness or won't have time to grow strong roots into the soil. Those planted in autumn are subject to frost heaving and are more susceptible to cold damage, too. The key is to plant garden mums as early as possible (May or June). Buy small specimens and pinch back plants to promote root growth so you will have stronger plants going into winter. Mulch with compost, shredded leaves, evergreen boughs or small bark chips. Water mums thoroughly in late fall and do not trim them back after they finish blooming. Leave the branches to collect snow, which will provide a little more protection. Some of the best hardy varieties of mums are the Morden Series from Manitoba.

Care Checklist for Asters:

- Most asters grow best in full sun a (for better flowering, stronger stems and fewer disease problems) to part shade (especially woodland varieties).
- Will tolerate average to poor, dry soils, but to reduce powdery mildew, grow in moist, rich soil or plant mildew-resistant types.
- Mulch new plants with compost or shredded leaves in spring and fall.
- Pinch back or shear stems in early summer to delay flowering and produce a sturdier form that won't need staking.
- Water deeply (2.5 cm) as needed.
- Divide every two to four years to keep plants vigorous, full and within bounds.

You Could Win...

Simply answer the following question and place your answer in the box provided at the Info Centre in the store. Winner will receive a \$100 Gift Certificate towards the tree purchase of their choice. Draw will be made on November 1, 2008.

How many Swedish Aspen border the Parkland Nurseries and Garden Centre tree lot?

Fall 2008 Course Listing and Dates...

Date	Course	Time	Fee	Instructor
Oct. 4	Fall Pruning for Trees & Shrubs	1:00-3:00	\$40.00	TBA
Nov. 8	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank	Donation
Nov. 15	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank	Donation
Nov. 22	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank	Donation
Nov. 29	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank	Donation
Dec. 6	Creative Christmas Workshops	9:45am – 5:30pm	Various	
Dec. 13	Craft & Market Sale	10:00am-4:00pm	Food Bank	Donation
Dec. 15 ?	Ice Sculptures	Weather Dependent		

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

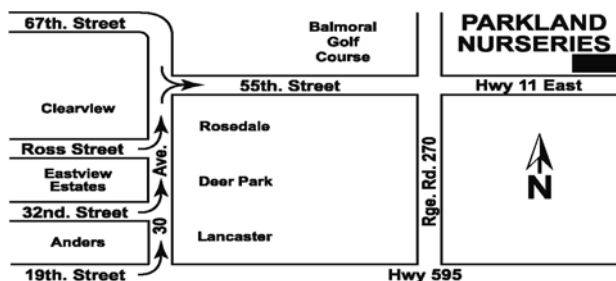
Payment must be made in full at time of registration. Visa, MasterCard, Interac, or cash accepted.

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

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