

# The Village Garden Center's September 2009 Garden Club Newsletter



## The Arrival of Fall

School has started, nighttime temperatures are starting to drop, and soon the pumpkins will be ready to pick. All these things make me think of fall, and the things that I can do to welcome it and to get ready for it.

Did you know...When a coffee seed is planted, it takes five years to yield it's first consumable fruit.

Fall is a great time to transplant/divide perennials and grasses. It is also the best time of the year to plant new trees, shrubs, perennials, and grasses. The cool nighttime temperatures are kind to newly planted items, and you still have plenty of time for your plants to "set roots" before Winter sets in. There is plenty of time for mums and asters to bloom. Look for them at your local nursery.

Did you know....All porcupines float in water

This time of the year is also favorable for pruning of some trees and shrubs.

Use the rule of taking no more than 2/3rds of the plant, and you should be fine. You can prune simply for aesthetics, or to control the habit of the plant. It is also a good time and idea to cut down plants like Echinacea and Russian Sage. This will keep those plants from seeding out in places that you do not want them.

This past growing season we found that many people were losing Blue Mist Spirea and Butterfly Bushes. We now believe that trimming those shrubs back in the fall could cause them not to winter over. This fall please wait to trim them until the first of March. Customers that waited to trim them in the spring were more successful.

Did you know....The growth of some bamboo plants can reach three feet in a single day.

### \*REMINDER\*

Our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Pumpkin Harvest Festival is on October 17<sup>th</sup>.  
Go on our website @TheVillageGardenCenter.com to find out about all the fun events we will be having!

Enjoy your ornamental grasses. This is the best time of the year to view them. Remember to leave them alone until spring (that way you can enjoy them in the Winter too). This is a good time to decide what other grasses you want to add to your landscape. Often in the spring when customers are purchasing, they can't remember the height, width, plume, etc. of their grasses and they aren't sure which ones they want to add. Take a digital picture so you know which ones you want to add if you are waiting until Spring to make your purchases. Also, the plumes from grasses are great for arrangements indoors. Just spray some aerosol hair spray on the plumes and they will last a long time!

After the first frost it is time to dig up tender bulb plants like gladiolus. Store them in sawdust over the Winter in a cool, dry place.

Grab a sweater, some warm tea, and a book.....fall is just around the corner!

**GARDEN CLUB SPECIALS - October**

30% off to garden club members only

Food Item; Jellies, crisps, apple candies, popcorn, etc. (Limit 1)

Friendship Ball (Limit 1)

Pumpkin butter or chutney (Limit 1)

**Garden Club Garden Walk- September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 A.M.**

We will meet at the store and leave as soon as everyone arrives.

All those whose homes we are going to view, need to call the store and confirm. I have had several cancellations and now I am unsure where we are going. The extra phone call will help me greatly . **308-635-3300**