

## **October Tips**

### **Perennials:**

- \*Best time to plant or transplant most perennials (Fall or Spring)
- \*Need 6 hours of sun and good drainage
- \*Dividing every 2-3 years, if they bloom in spring divide in Fall and visa versa.  
To divide, dig up and cut into several sections with a sharp knife. If the center portion shows woodsy growth discard and replant only younger outer portions.
- \*Feed now with 12-24-12 or 5-10-5 or bone meal.
- \*Book: Perennials for American Gardens by Ruth Rogers Clausen

### **Trees:**

- \*October 15 – March 15 is the best time to plant trees.
- \*To Plant, loosen the soil in an area 3-5x the width of the root ball and 6-20" depth. In the center, dig a hole as wide as the root ball and slightly more shallow than the depth. Remove burlap or container and place on solidly packed soil.  
Where the tree's main trunk meets the roots, should be slightly above the grade.  
Fill hole ½ way with dirt, water good and let settle. Repeat. Mulch 2-3" thick and 6" away from trunk. Water 2x/week during dry periods.

### **Garden:**

- \* Soil: To be productive, add 2-3" of organic matter over the garden/beds and mix it with existing soil. If you add straw or leaves, add 5-10# of 10-10-10 nitrogen/1,000sf for decomposition.
- \* Camellias and Azaleas: to help develop stronger roots to get through the winter lightly fertilize with 5-10-10/15
- \* Holly's: If yellowing leaves, fertilize with Holly fertilizer. Then spring & summer.

### **Lawns:**

- \*Weeds: Late October, when new Fescue grass is well established, spray Weed-be-Gone, Weedone or 33 Plus herbicide to Kill weeds. Next best control is a weed and feed product, if you haven't fed your lawn for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time this fall. Try to keep grass thick and tall (3") to crowd out weeds.

### **Misc.:**

- \*Check Marigolds for spider mites. Look for turning turn brown & small webs. Throw away and spray ground with insecticidal soap, diatomaceous earth or chemical with kelthane. They reproduce every 2wks.
- \*Check for Bagworms, prune off and throw away.