



# Fall To-Do List

By David Kelly

As fall is closing in around us, the garden tasks to be completed before the first heavy frost are starting to mount up. Here is a list of tasks that I plan to work through:

- Collect fallen leaves for shredding and apply as winter mulch once ground has frozen
- Lift and store non-hardy tubers and bulbs – e.g. Asiatic Lilies, Cannas, Dahlias, Gladioli
- Take cuttings of tender annuals – e.g. Coleus, Begonias, Fuchsias
- Deadhead perennials you don't wish to self seed
- Harvest vegetable seed for pantry storage or next year's seed supply – e.g. Dried beans
- Remove perennial foliage selectively after a killing frost – e.g. Hostas, Peonies
- Trim back iris foliage to a 4-6-inch fan
- Protect borderline hardy shrubs from winter winds and cold – e.g. Oak Leaf Hydrangea, Roses
- Preserve the harvest by canning, freezing and dehydrating
- Clean garden tools and sharpen blades ready for next spring
- Protect cold hardy vegetables from killing frost – e.g. Kale, and root vegetables
- Drain rain barrels
- Purge water from irrigation systems
- Bring in decorative pots that may be damaged by sub-zero temperatures
- Take time out to enjoy the beauty of the fall garden



*Tender Annuals ready for propagation*



*Joys of fall - an explosion of mushrooms*