

“From the Potting Shed”
Riverview Garden Club
Helpful Hints – November, 2026

By tending to these tasks in November, you’ll help your garden transition smoothly into winter and set the stage for a successful and vibrant garden in the following spring.

Things to do in the garden this month…

❑ Rake up and compost leaves. Mulch leaves into garden beds. Clean up stems and twigs around the garden.

❑ Put out the bird feeders

❑ Plant trees and shrubs if you haven’t already. Keep them watered until the ground is frozen.

❑ Dig up and store tender summer bulbs like gladiolus, dahlia, canna and calla lily.

❑ Mow the lawn once more and do end-of-season maintenance on the mower.

❑ Harvest any last produce from the vegetable garden and try to preserve some of the bounty to enjoy for the winter.

❑ Spread a layer of compost over the vegetable garden so it will be ready to till in spring.

❑ Control weeds that have been lurking in the lawn before they set seed.

❑ Plant spring-flowering bulbs.

❑ After frost takes annuals down, pull the annual plants and put them on the compost pile. Discard plants in the trash that have any signs of disease.

❑ Unless there are disease problems, leave perennials standing until spring. Most will add winter interest and provide food for birds too.

❑ Empty, wash and store your containers. Use a dolly to move heavy or large ones. Dump out the potting mix into the compost pile and remove loose dirt and debris with a stiff brush.

❑ Turn the pots over and store them in a protected spot up off the ground. A couple of 2x4s are enough height to keep moisture from accumulating around the lip of the pot and cracking it.

❑ Cover new perennials, and those that have a tendency to heave, with mulch.

❑ Empty the garden hose and coil it up. Also empty and store the birdbath unless you will be using a heater.

❑ Use a garden-friendly deicer or coarse sand to treat ice on sidewalks and driveways.

❑ Dream about next year's garden and place orders for new plants and seeds that you plan to start indoors.

RESOURCE:

"Late Fall Garden Checklist", Garden Gate Newsletter, September 22, 2026.

Happy Late Fall Gardening!

