



Tuckaleechee Garden Club Gazette

The “Peaceful Side” Garden Club

President’s Message

Hello gardening friends,

Autumn is in the air, and soon our landscapes will be glowing with brilliant fall foliage, cheerful late-season perennials, and the final harvests of the year. After the generous rainfall we enjoyed this summer, I’m anticipating an especially colorful season. Even better, that rainfall officially lifted us out of a multi-year drought — a wonderful gift from Mother Nature!

As we step into fall, our club has a rich lineup of programs and activities to enjoy together. Remember, each month’s meeting agenda, minutes, program details, and horticulture and design themes are available on our [website](#).



We begin September with a special program from our own Dr. Jerry Faulkner: “The Naked Truth About Gymnosperms.” Jerry is a gifted teacher, and I know his presentation will deepen our appreciation for this fascinating group of plants.

September also brings the Blue Ribbon Country Fair at the GSM Heritage Center — a one-day celebration on Saturday, September 26, from 10:00–4:00. Our club will host an informational stand under the cantilever barn, and a volunteer sign-up sheet will be available at the September meeting. Members are encouraged to enter floral, produce, and photography competitions; details on how to participate can be found [here](#).

October will be extra special. Instead of our traditional meeting, we’ll take a field trip to one of our new community service projects: Kidscape at Camp Wesley Woods. Leaders Diane Rohtert and Anna Gaultney will guide us through the landscape beds developed by our club and lead a short hike to explore the camp’s flora and waterfalls. Afterwards, Debbie Dickie will teach a hands-on Leaf Pounding Workshop, and everyone will create something beautiful to take home. Lunch will be provided.

In November, we'll shift into holiday mode with Debbie Dickie's workshop, "Christmas Ornament Making for GSM Heritage Center." These handmade ornaments will decorate the Heritage Center cabins for Christmas — always a fun and festive tradition.

And remember: FALL IS FOR PLANTING! If you've been thinking about adding trees or shrubs to your landscape, now through February is the ideal time. Perennials should be planted by early October for best success.

Keep an eye on announcements and the website for volunteer opportunities across our many community service projects. Enjoy the season, savor the garden's bounty, and I look forward to seeing you at our meetings.

Warmly,

Dr. Sue Hamilton, TGC President

TGC Autumn 2026 Newsletter Contents:

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Upcoming Events & Important Dates *Autumn Issue*

September 15 TGC Meeting, 2026

Program: "The Naked Truth About Gymnosperms"

Speaker: *Jerry Faulkner (TGC Member)*

Horticulture: Refer to Section D for a list of Classes for exhibiting Horticulture specimens.

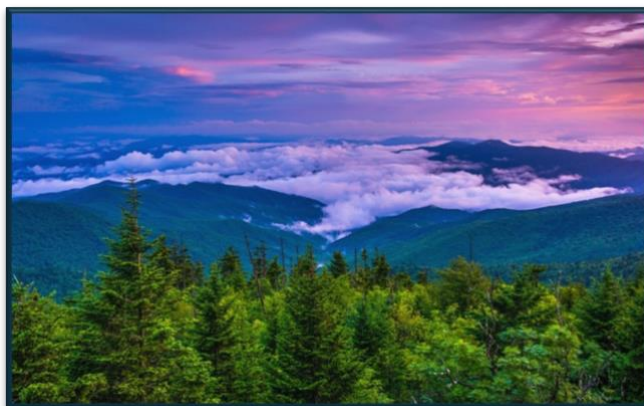
Design: Refer to Section D for exhibiting a Design.

Design Theme: 'Whispering Pines'

Design Type: Featured Plant Material Creative Design (HB p74) featuring cultivars of pine & conifers (gymnosperms). Design limits 32 inches high x 24 inches W & D.

Hostesses: Colleen Girard & Brenda Gose

Judges for Horticulture & Design: JoAnne Funk & Scott Schehr



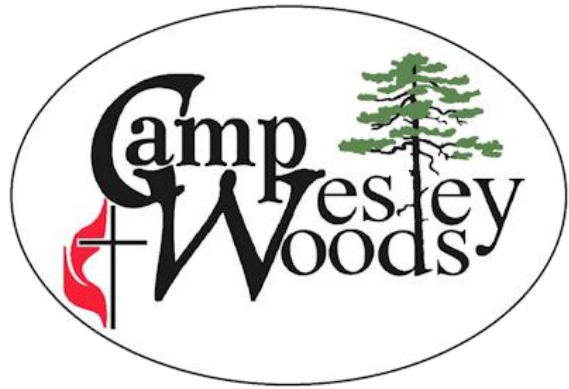
October 20, 2026 Field Trip

Tour at Wesley Woods & Leaf Pounding

Speaker(s): Anna Gaultney, Diane Rohtert, & Debbie Dickie (TGC Members)

Hostesses: Anna Gaultney & Diane Rohtert

*** No Horticulture or Design Assignments ***



November 17 Meeting, 2026

Program: Workshop – Christmas Ornaments for the Cabins at Heritage Center (CSP)

Speaker: Debbie Dickie (TGC Member)

Horticulture: Refer to Section D for a list of Classes for exhibiting Horticulture specimens.

Design: Refer to Section D for exhibiting a Design.

Design Theme: 'Holiday Celebration'

Design Type: Any Creative Design. Design limits 32 inches high x 24 inches W & D

Hostesses: Scott Schehr & Theresa Schehr

Judges for Horticulture & Design: Anna Gaultney & Diane Rohert

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 19th: Bike Bash, Chair: Francesca Messenger
- Sept. 26th 10 AM-4 PM GSMHC Blue Ribbon County Fair
- Oct. 8th "Plant America 250" at Ivan Racheff House & Gardens
- Oct. 13th TFGC Conservation Camp (Beersheba Spring, TN)
- Oct. 17th District IV Fall Meeting, Fox Den Knoxville



General TGC Meeting Note:

Tuckaleechee Garden Club Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the Month at **10 AM** and at **Tuckaleechee United Methodist Church 7322 Old Tuckaleechee Rd, Townsend** unless otherwise noted.

“So You Want To Be a Beekeeper” Presentation

Tuckaleechee Garden Club (TGC) has several **Educational Programs** a year. In June, the TGC program was “So you want to be a Beekeeper”. The presentation was given by Morgan Juncal who is a small business owner with over 30 bee hives in Blount County. She said her passion is maintaining hearty healthy bee colonies and spreading awareness about

the adversity bees face.

Her presentation and “show and tell” was very

informative, thorough and inspiring. Members were given the necessary information to begin or improve their beekeeping journey and/or be better stewards of the land.



Blount Beekeepers Association

Meetings: 2nd Monday of the Month at 6:30 PM

Location: Maryville Church of Christ, 611 Sherwood Dr. Maryville

In the Kitchen...

After being picked, **Green Beans** respire (release carbon dioxide) at a faster rate than any other vegetable, meaning they spoil quickly. Wrap them in plastic before placing in the fridge to slow respiration and keep them fresher longer.

Vegetable Gardening Wisdom by Kelly Smith



Volunteer Spirit - Member Highlight *Autumn Issue*

Editor's Note: This section highlights TGC volunteers and in this edition, we asked our featured members why they volunteer. They sent the wonderful note below:

Why we volunteer ...

Much will be required of everyone who has been given much. And even more will be expected of the one who has been entrusted with more. - Luke 12:48

"We have been incredibly blessed and believe we have a responsibility to give back. We have always tried to give of our treasure and time. Time is our most precious resource. It is the only asset a person has that they can't check the balance. Volunteering our time is a way of improving the life of others both physically, spiritually emotionally, and aesthetically. Our volunteering with the garden club brings God's natural beauty to the lives of others. To paraphrase Joyce Kilmer, "Poems are made by fools like me, but only God can make a flower."

Jerry and Wanda

Jerry and Wanda Faulkner co-chair the Cades Cove Community Service Project. Below is a description of the project.



Cades Cove Community Service Project

A few years ago, Tuckaleechee Garden Club (TGC) members voted to help maintain the "Cades Cove Picnic Area". Cades Cove is a scenic valley surrounded on all sides by mountains south of Townsend TN. Attracting **over 2 million visitors each year**, it is the most popular section of the Great Smoky Mountains

National Park. A popular 11-mile one-way loop road encircling the valley provides visitors access to hiking trails, opportunities for wildlife viewing, and chances to explore the many historic homesites, cemeteries, and churches. Many Cades Cove visitors to the area are taking note of the labelled native plants in the beds, and the Park Service is very appreciative of the club's work.



These Cades Cove native plant beds are believed to have been created by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) when the park was being developed in the 1940's and through the TGC community service project described above, the beds have been revitalized. The beds were not being maintained prior to TGC involvement.

Featured Community Service Project (CSP)

Autumn Issue

Faithscape



Tuckaleechee Garden Club (TGC) holds their monthly business meetings and educational programs at Tuckaleechee United Methodist Church (TUMC) in Townsend, TN. They have since the club first started in 1983. TUMC is a local community church that was established in 1891. The lovely stone structure that is there today was built in 1937. In appreciation and as a community beautification project, members decided to improve and maintain the landscape around the church. The community service project was named "Faithscape". The project includes planting colorful and "cut-flower" plant selections so church and club members, and the community can enjoy the

*Submitted by
Diane Rohert*



beautiful gardens and be able to use the flowers for alter arrangements. See below for the before pictures.

Pictures of Before *Faithscape*



Recipes, Herbs, Teas & Such *Autumn Issue*

Roasted Autumn Vegetables

6-8 cups of cubed vegetables or fruits to bite size (about one inch cubed), onions, mushrooms, winter squashes, cherry tomatoes, carrots, Brussels sprouts, sweet peppers, or figs, apples, pears, pineapple.

Marinade with 2-3 tablespoons of olive oil, 2-3 tablespoons of balsamic vinegar, 1-2 tablespoons of minced garlic, pinch of salt and pepper to taste (about 1 and 1/2 teaspoons).

Preheat oven to 400-425F, spread marinated vegetables or fruits evenly, making sure they don't touch. For vegetables, roast 25-30 minutes, for fruits, roast 20-25 minutes. Stirring or flipping halfway through.

The leftover roasted vegetables are great to add to soup or salad.

*Submitted by
Diane Rohert*



Growing Your Own Tea Never Looked So Pretty ...

By *Dr. Sue Hamilton*

Camellia sinensis or tea bush as it is commonly known is the source of true Southerner's favorite beverage, tea. Also known as the tea camellia, the finest teas are made from the top two leaves and bud of each of the plant's shoot. As a result, you'll find Camellia sinensis grown commercially throughout Asia, from where it is native. A cup of tea aside, many folks don't realize that the tea bush is a beautiful ornamental shrub that does well in our Tennessee landscapes. It is a relative of the ornamental camellias we love to have in our landscapes for their large and showy blooms. This evergreen plant makes a dense, round shrub that grows to 4-6 feet tall and just as wide. It produces leathery, dark green leaves that are a bit narrower than its ornamental relatives. Best of all, it covers itself with fragrant white flowers each fall that are about 1 ½-inches in diameter. Flowering typically starts in September and can continue into early December. It is cold hardy to zone 6 making it one of the cold-hardest species of Camellia. You could say that tea camellia is a very forgiving plant in that it is not particular about soil or light exposure thriving well in shade to tolerating full-sun. Noted plant expert and author, Dr. Michael Dirr, feels it is a valuable plant for the southeastern region because it shows good heat and drought tolerance.



For landscape use, this evergreen makes a nice background plant especially in shady recesses where its bright white flowers will shine. It also is effective when used in mass and it makes a nice foundation plant too. It tolerates pruning and can always be cutback if a shorter plant is desired. Several varieties are commercially available including pink flowering selections and ones with variegated foliage. 'Rosea' is one with pink flowers. 'Shirotae' is a selection with pewter colored leaves with white margins and 'Silver Dust' has new growth that emerges almost white and as the leaves mature, they turn green with some silver flecking. 'Gold Splash' has large green and yellow variegated leaves.

While the tea bush thrives in hot humid climates, the best tea is grown in mountain regions where the leaves grow slowly to create more flavorful and noteworthy blends. Many of the world's most famous teas come from bushes cultivated above 4,000 feet.

For more information and to learn about the wonderful world of camellias, check out the [International Camellia Society](#) and the [American Camellia Society](#)

Herb of the Season: Goldenrod
(*Solidago* sp.)

Submitted by
Debbie Dickey



Do you know this plant? This native perennial is blooming right now with its showy, bright golden cone-shaped blooms. Many people confuse goldenrod with ragweed, probably because they bloom at the same time and both have yellow blooms.

Goldenrod has a much prettier bloom and despite the common misconception that it causes seasonal allergies (a blame that belongs to wind pollinated ragweed), goldenrod actually treats it! Its drying, astringent actions stop runny noses, watery eyes, and excess respiratory mucous. It's also a premier herb for the urinary system. Its antiseptic properties help flush out bacteria during active UTI's.

To make a delicious medicinal tea, harvest the flowers and the upper leaves and hang to dry. Steep 1-3 tsp of dried herb in hot water for 10 min. Drink 2-3x daily.

To grow Goldenrod in the garden, a full-sun site with moist but well-drained soil is ideal. Many great varieties are on the market and vary in size from just 12" tall to 3' making them ideal as a cut flower. Goldenrod is also

great for attracting butterflies and pollinators to the garden.

Frost is in the air. There is an old farm rule that has been passed down for generations, and it holds up better than you might expect. When you notice goldenrod's first blooms, first frost is roughly six weeks out. According to the Farmers' Almanac, this old folk rule is surprisingly accurate across much of the United States, and there is real biology behind why it works as well as it does.

Simple Trick for Saving Seeds from your Garden

You can use old jewelry pouches and sheer tulle bags to easily save seeds from your garden. Tie a small mesh or tulle bag directly over a dry flower head on the plant. The bag catches the falling seeds while letting air and sunlight pass through safely. Storage is very easy I just put the jewelry bags with the flower seeds in a paper bag until I am ready to plant them.

Submitted by Kris Jedlicki



Spooky Black Plants for Your Garden

by *Dr. Sue Hamilton*

Let black plants haunt your garden!

Mysterious, strange, shadowy, and creepy define the allure of plants with black flowers, foliage, or fruit. But rather than cast gloom, I like to think these plants add mystery, depth, and sophistication to the garden. Such plants are no nightmare to me but a gardener's dream. These nature's oddities add a special thrill in the garden and are perfect in providing contrast with its brighter elements. Black plants have also grown in popularity for their 'Goth' look but you don't need to be Goth to appreciate such plants. If you think black plants are weird or offbeat, consider that gardening on the "dark side" is just a different way of thinking about what's beautiful. Black works great in the world of fashion and luxury cars and I believe unquestionably in the garden as well. Every wardrobe needs a basic black garment to accessorize. In the garden, you can "dress up" black plants too. Admittedly, most so-called black plants aren't really black at all. It's rare to find a true black blossom or leaf in nature. Black plants are really flowers and foliage that have such deep color pigments of purple, maroon, burgundy, mahogany, or chocolate brown that they appear black.



Black Pearl Red Bud

Designing with black:

As in any garden design, a successful planting is never about just one plant; it is in the combining of many plants that artistry is achieved. Black enhances other colors. Its contrast to other colors helps bring attention and focus to the garden. Black adds excitement, yet the deep tones are restful on the eyes. There is a reason black is a mainstay of fashion designers—it is always appropriate and other colors pop against it. Decide on a few black plants that will serve as the starring attraction of your outdoor space, then surround them with a supporting cast of other plants. I recommend that you mix and blend black plants throughout your beds and containers. If you take this approach, you'll transform planting beds and containers from the ordinary to the extraordinary.

I personally love the combination of black foliage plants with silver foliage plants like *Euphorbia*, *Artemisia*, *Brunnera*, *Hosta*, and *Pulmonaria*. The silver on black combination is very striking. I also think you can't go wrong with combining red, orange, or yellow flowering plants with black foliage plants. Such contrast is a knockout!

And don't forget that white flowering plants paired with black foliage plants are always chic.

Gardeners and plant lovers looking for black plant suggestions and ideas for distinct color schemes can get inspiration from the following two books dedicated to gardening on the dark side: ***Black Magic and Purple Passion: A Comprehensive Guide to Dark Plants*** by Karen Platt and ***Black Plants: 75 Striking Choices for the Garden*** by Paul Bonine.

Following is my list of favorite black plants that do well in our gardening area. This fall, put a new twist in your garden and add some black plants. Black flowering pansies and violas make fun decorations for Halloween, and after the holiday, their dark petals add an unexpected beauty to containers and garden beds. Plant them in an unusual container like a hollowed pumpkin or faux coffin for added fun.

Trees and Shrubs



Sunset Magic Crepe Myrtle

elderberry are selections with distinctive black foliage and soft pink early summer flowers. I love how the foliage on these selections is deeply dissected, giving the plants a fine foliage texture. The fall fruit of this deciduous shrub attracts birds. It's also a deer resistant! Grows 8 feet tall and 4'-8' wide.

'Little Devil', 'Diablo', Summer Wine', 'Gumdrop Burgundy Candy', 'Tiny Wine' and 'Little Joker'

ninebark are deciduous shrubs who dark foliage is offset by button-like white-pink flowers in June. Variety sizes vary from 3-4' tall and wide to 6' tall and wide.

'Black Pearl', 'Midnight Express', 'Merlot', 'Burgundy Hearts', 'Amethyst', and 'Ruby Falls' are all dark leaf redbuds. 'Ruby Falls' is a weeping form. 'Black Pearl' is

'Black Diamond' and 'Magic' crepe myrtles are two of the hottest series on the market right now because of their striking black foliage. Flower colors range from pure white to pink to deep red but it's the black foliage that sets them off. Considered semi-dwarf growing 10-12 feet tall and 8 feet wide. **'Black Lace', 'Black Tower', 'Laced Up', and 'Black Beauty'**



Black Lace Elderberry

the newest on the market and touted as one of the best for keeping its burgundy color throughout the season. 'Midnight Express' is a narrow growing form only 10' wide.

Perennials

'Black Beauty', 'Blackout', and 'Obsidian' coral bells are some of the best dark foliage coral bells you'll find. They are perfect for use in containers. Morning sun and afternoon shade are ideal growing conditions. '

'Black Knight' and 'Australia' canna are two of the blackest cannas you can use in the garden to really set off surrounding plants.

'Black Scallop' bugleweed or ajuga is a striking perennial groundcover that forms a dense mat of black foliage. The leaves are ruffled and glossy with scalloped edges and make a beautiful background to show off the violet-blue flower spikes that are produced in spring and summer.

'Hello Darkness' and 'Superstition iris are two of the blackest flowering irises you'll find.

'Mystic' series dahlias are set apart from other dahlia varieties by their fashionable filigreed deep black foliage topped with vivid-colored blooms. They do not require staking because they only grow 24" tall and wide. Flowers are single daisy-type in a variety of colors.

'Night Coaster', 'Onyx Odyssey', and 'Metallic Blue Lady' Lenten rose are three selections with black flowers. Blooms during winter - January thru March. Part-shade to shade.

'Nigrescens', 'Arabicus', and 'Ebony Knight' black mondo grass are three great selections of this wonderful ornamental grass. Growing to just 6" tall with a spreading habit makes it a great groundcover. Morning sun and afternoon shade are ideal growing conditions.

'Queen of Night' Tulip is a large, late season blooming (April) single tulip whose dark color provides a striking contrast to other colors.

'Black' hens n chicks (sempervivum) is a hardy succulent which forms a dense rosette of chocolate-brown leaves with sharp tips. Full sun deepens the color of the leaves. Produces white flowers in summer.

Annuals

'Amethyst' and 'Dark Opal' basil are dark-leaved Genovese-type basil. Large, thick, turned down leaves are incredibly dark and fragrant.

'Black Devil', 'Halloween', 'Black Prince', 'Black Moon', and 'Bowles

Black' pansies and violas are perfect cool-season annuals to add that festive and spooky look to your garden. Great in mixed containers or massed in the foreground of landscape beds. Best performance in full-sun.

'Black Magic', 'Black Coral', 'Electric Blue Gecko', 'Diamond Head' and 'Puckered Up' elephant ears are exotic looking and tropical summer bulbs whose dark foliage are so striking in any garden. Use in beds or containers. Full-sun to part-shade.

'Black Pearl' ornamental pepper boasts the most dramatically deep purple-black leaves and fruit imaginable. The vigorous, bushy plants grow to 18" tall and almost as wide. Flowers are lilac with dark black peppers emerging in fall.

'Black Prince', 'Black Dragon', 'Dark Star' and 'Newly Noir' coleus are the darkest coleus I've seen. Just a fabulous summer annual foliage plant to compliment most flowering annuals.

'Black Velvet', 'Black Mamba', and 'Black Magic' petunias are vigorous petunias, eager to imbue any container or bed. Stretching 8 to 12" tall and wide, they quickly form dense masses of downy green leaves, magnificently cloaked with silken black blooms.

'Blackie', 'Sweetheart Jet Black', 'Sweet Caroline Medusa Black', and 'Ace of Spades' sweet potato vine are the darkest black summer foliage plants you can use in the garden. Great summer groundcover for use in beds or containers.

'Redbor' purple kale is a cool season ornamental veggie that is great when paired with winter annuals.

Autumn Gardening Calendar

by *Dr. Sue Hamilton*

Now is a great time to do fall decorating in your garden which works well all season long, from the first hint of cool air and autumn color to late November and Thanksgiving. The key is making displays that use the



traditional icons of fall - hay bales, scarecrows, corn-stalks - as supporting cast for the lead players - pumpkins, gourds, Indian corn, garden or pot mums, fall pansies, asters, ornamental kale and other blooming plants. Hay bales are

especially useful "benches" for building versatile displays, while corn-stalks add height and definition. Such displays can add a festive touch to a front porch or the landscape in strategic places like a light post or the entrance to a driveway or walk.

Another 'tip'.... using a pumpkin or gourd as a container for cut flowers is always unique and festive!



- The average killing frost for East Tennessee is around November 1st.
- Another 'tip'.... October is typically the driest month in Tennessee so be sure to keep your garden watered.

Autumn Gardening Calendar ...

Shrubs and trees

- Work on a landscape plan for fall planting of trees and shrubs. Most of the planting should wait until late October and November and can continue through February. But plant stock will be at their peak in garden centers before the holidays so shop early. Keep bought plants in containers watered well until planted. Digging and transplanting any established trees and shrubs is best done November through February.
- Fertilize roses one last time in September. Don't prune roses until March of next spring.

Perennials, annuals, and bulbs

- Plan where you'd like to plant spring flowering bulbs and purchase bulbs early for best choice and supplies. Most of the planting should wait until October and November. Planting can continue until January first.
- Divide, transplant and label perennials. As these plants die back in the fall, it is a great time to divide older plants. Complete divisions by mid-October to allow the roots time to establish themselves before winter. Be sure to keep newly divided plants watered.
- If you've grown tender bulbs this summer such as caladium, elephant ears, dahlia, and gladiolus, September is the month to dig them and put them into storage for next year's use.
- One last effort at weeding will help to improve the appearance of your garden throughout the winter. Any weed which you can eliminate from the garden this fall will possibly prevent thousands of weed seeds from sprouting in the garden next spring!
- Collect seed from perennials and annuals. Collect and save seeds of wildflowers to sow either right now allowing the seeds to over- winter in your garden or wait and sow early next spring.
- Continue to cut flowers for drying: yarrow, hydrangea, strawflower, salvia, gomphrena, cockscomb, love-in-a-mist, etc.
- In October it's a good time to spruce up your garden by cutting-back withering perennial blooms and adding a fresh layer of mulch. If you do add new mulch, be sure to follow-up with a pre-emergent herbicide like Preen, to prevent an invasion of winter weeds.
- Remove and compost spent annuals and fallen leaves.
- Plant late season annuals like pansies, snapdragons, *Dianthus chinensis*, ornamental kale and cabbage for fall through spring color.
- In late fall, keep your garden and lawn raked clean of a **heavy** layer of leaves and debris. Heavy, thick layers of leaves can smother and choke out desirable grass and perennials. Fallen leaves, old plant parts and grass clippings should be added to the compost pile. Mowing over fallen leaves on your lawn helps grind them to a smaller size and can help in fertilizing your grass.

Lawn care

- In September, dethatch and core aerate existing lawns to promote root growth and improve fertilizer absorption and seed germination.
- Lime lawns if a soil test indicates it is necessary.
- Fertilize your lawn following label directions for whatever lawn fertilizer you use.
- If you have thin or bare areas in your lawn, seed in September and mulch with straw to reduce erosion and weeds.
- Fall is also the time to introduce new, improved varieties or a tall fescue blend. You should do your seeding by mid-October, but you can fertilize as late as mid-November.
- Get your bermudagrass or Zoysia lawns ready in September for winter by increasing the cutting height this month. This helps buffer these grasses from cold damage.
- Applying a fertilizer with potassium can also increase the hardiness of your warm season grasses to winter cold. Look for fertilizers formulated with a preemergence herbicide to prevent seeds of annual bluegrass and other winter weeds from germinating and competing with your grasses for light, nutrients and water.
- If you find your lawn is too shady for grass, now would be a great time to remove lower limbs and "dead wood" from large trees greatly increasing the amount of light reaching your lawn.
- Remove algae and moss from a shady lawn by raking or applying copper sulfate.
- Since grasses growing in shade are usually weak and spindly, remove fallen leaves as soon as possible.

Fruits and veggies

- If rain is lacking, continue to water your cool-season garden.
- Add organic matter such as composted manure, garden compost and/or leaf mold to improve garden soils.
- Before a killing frost, keep harvesting herbs, especially tender herbs like basil. Make Pesto and freeze it or put the basil in sealed plastic bags in the freezer.
- Keep Harvesting tomatoes, peppers, etc. until a killing frost. Harvest onions and garlic as soon as the tops fall over and begin to dry out.
- You can plant cool season crops through the end of September including leaf lettuce, spinach, cabbage, broccoli, Swiss chard, parsley, and radishes.
- Pumpkins, summer squashes, and gourds to be stored should be harvested before the first frost. Pumpkins that have begun showing color will continue to ripen after harvest. Use great care not to nick the rind during harvest since this will lead to more rapid deterioration.
- Dig and divide congested clumps of rhubarb.
- Apple varieties are showing up at fresh markets and roadside stands. Seek out some new varieties to eat fresh or create delicious desserts with. Apple trees can be planted now, too. Select disease resistant ones such as Redfree, Prima, Priscilla, Jonafree, Nova Easygro, and Liberty.
- Keep harvesting second plantings of the cool season vegetables including radishes, lettuce, Chinese cabbage, chard, spinach, broccoli, and the other cold crops. Some such as parsnips, Brussels sprouts, and kale actually have enhanced flavor after a frost.

- Plant individual cloves of garlic now for a crop of garlic bulbs next summer. Select very large cloves to produce the largest bulbs. Plant them 6" deep and at least 6" apart. Mulch them after the ground freezes for winter protection.
- Some root crops, such as carrots, onions, and parsnips can be left in the ground and dug up as needed. Apply enough mulch to keep the ground from freezing, and the crop will be kept fresh until it is needed.
- If diseases or insects wiped out your peach or other fruit crop this year, clean-up is definitely called for. Destroy any fallen fruit from under your trees and remove any that have mummified on the tree. These fruits will be loaded with problems and cause an early attack next year. Consider getting a home fruit spray schedule from your local extension office now, so you are prepared next year.
- After you have finished harvesting your summer vegetables, plant a cover crop of clovers, cow peas, soybeans, or vetches for the purpose of plowing under next spring. These nitrogen producing plants will provide good organic matter and food for your garden crops next year, as well as helping to control weeds over the winter.

Odds and ends

- Continue to aerate and moisten compost pile to speed decomposition
- Take in tender aquatic plants from ponds.
- Begin to feed birds.
- In early October, place amaryllis plants in storage for a 2-month rest before reflowering. Select a cool (40 _ 50 degree) spot and stop all watering. Plan to begin watering again 9-12 weeks before you want it to flower.
- In October, Thanksgiving and Christmas cactus should be placed in an east or north window, watered and fertilized one last time. Start letting them dry out more between waterings. This plus cooler night temperatures in a window will stimulate blossom production.

Over the Garden Fence...

This fall, avoid cutting back spring-blooming shrubs like *lilacs*, Azaleas, *forsythia*, and certain hydrangeas, as well as seed-bearing perennials like coneflowers, black-eyed Susans, and *ornamental grasses*. Also, avoid cutting back semi-woody perennials such as sage, rosemary, English thyme, Russian sage, wormwood, and salvia. Pruning these plants in the fall removes next year's flower buds, exposes crowns to fatal cold Damage, and deprives winter wildlife of vital food and shelter.



General Tuckaleechee Garden Club (TGC) Information

CSP Chairs

Cades Cove Bed

Jerry Faulkner

Camp Wesley Woods

Diane Rohert

GSM Heritage Center

Debbie Dickie

Faithscape

Diane Rohert

Odham Hospitality

Francesca Messenger

Townsend Elementary

Theresa Schehr

Contact Information

Website

<http://www.tuckaleecheegardenclub.com/>

Contact Person: Theresa Schehr

teschehr@gmail.com

Mailing Address

Tuckaleechee Garden Club
PO Box 263, Walland, TN, 37886

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/tuckaleecheegardenclub/>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/TuckaleecheeGardenClub>

Board Members

President: Sue Hamilton

Vice President: Diane Rohert

Recording Secretary: Anna Gaultney

Treasurer: Francesca Messenger

Chaplain: Debbie Dickie

Parliamentarian: Jolene Martin

Historian: Kris Jedlicki

Membership: Janie Bitner

Fundraising: Theresa Schehr

Communications: Theresa Schehr

Our Mission

.... to inspire and foster a passion for the art and science of gardening through volunteer community service projects, environmental stewardship, and educational programs that promote sustainable horticulture, beautification, and conservation for future generations of gardeners.

Tuckaleechee Garden Club is a 501(c)(3) Organization