

MAINTENANCE

October Tasks

Maintenance – Year-Round Care of Landscape Gardens

3 MAIN CATEGORIES OF CARE:

- **PLANT CARE**
- **GENERAL GARDEN CARE**
- **PRESENTATION**



October Maint VS Fall Cleanup

October Maintenance

- Assumed 2nd to last visit of “regular” season
- Can still split & transplant
- Can do a liiiiiiittle bit of pruning
- Should take ALL the leaves

Fall Cleanup

- Last scheduled visit of “regular” season
- Assume everything is cut down (except winter interest, habitat)
- Can leave some leaves

September - Maintenance

PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit



Always list:
Daylilies
Hosta
Most Grasses

Probably
Fine to do:
Monarda
Phlox
Iris
Ferns
Allium
Astilbe
Sedum
Geranium
&
Many others

Maybe? list:
Peony
Baptisia
Bleeding heart

Split/Transplant

Plant

Deadhead

Fertilize

Cut down

Clean Bases

Deadleaf/Finger-Comb/Scrunch

Aerate

Prune dead

Replant

Lift/Uncover (tubers)

Stake/Support

Cut back (for new flush)

September - Maintenance

PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit



Plant

Deadhead

Fertilize

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Clean Bases

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September - Maintenance

PERENNIAL/VINE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit



At a certain point it's not worth deadleafing,
just cut the whole plant back.

Client preference
Overall aesthetics

Perennials/Grasses

Plant

Deadhead

Fertilize

Cut down

Clean Bases

Deadleaf/Finger-Comb/Scrunch

Aerate

Prune dead

Replant

Lift/Uncover (tubers)

Stake/Support

Cut back (for new flush)

Split/Transplant

September - Maintenance

SHRUB/TREE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Shrubs/Evergreens

~~Remove insulation/protection~~

Prune

Deadleaf/needle

Clean Bases

Plant

Aerate

Deadhead

~~Fertilize~~



Seasonal needle drop is normal for most types of evergreens



Ornamental Trees

Prune dead

Prune

~~Fertilize~~

Plant

Limb up

Start at the top, work your way down

September - Maintenance

SHRUB/TREE PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

Shrubs/Evergreens

~~Remove insulation/protection~~

Prune

Deadleaf/needle

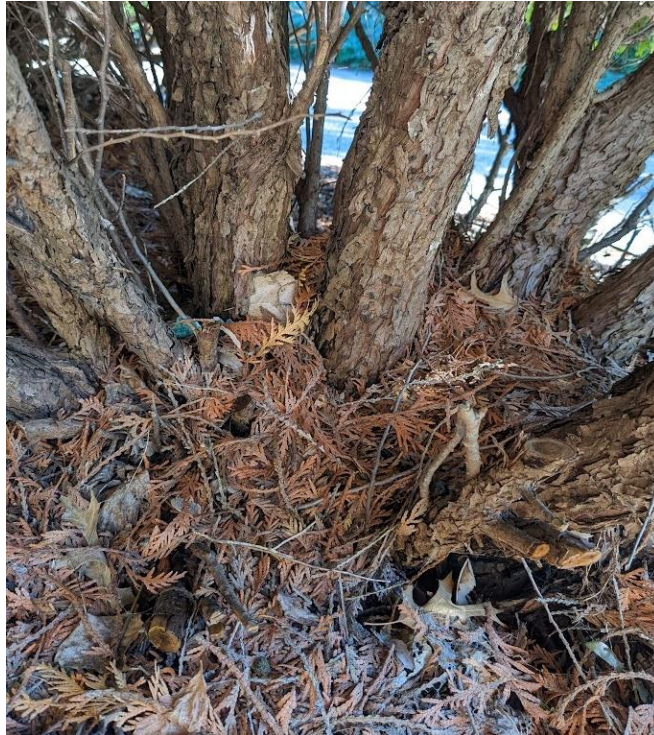
Clean Bases

Plant

Aerate

Deadhead

~~Fertilize~~



As dried needle debris builds up the in centers and bases of evergreens (esp Arbs) it can lead to rot or hiding places for mice

Ornamental Trees

Prune dead

Prune

~~Fertilize~~

Plant

Limb up



September - Maintenance

ANNUALS, ETC. PLANT CARE

Every plant, every visit

*Annuals/Veggies/Herbs
/Bulbs*

Plant hardy annuals,
veggies, herbs

Clean out

containers/replace soil as needed

Deadhead/Deadleaf

Fertilize

Harvest

Pinch



Oct – Maintenance

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Every element, every visit







Use the changing seasons as an advantage to notice what's been hiding from us



October – Maintenance

GENERAL GARDEN CARE

Every element, every visit

 Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amend• Fill holes• Redistribute
 Mulch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply more• Pull back from bases• Redistribute to cover bare areas
 Hardscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lift stones• Uncover edges
 Pests/Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify• Prevent• Treat
 Edges	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cut/Ditch• Lift• Rake• Clear off
 Everything Else	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pick up sticks• Clear bases of debris• Blow out beds

Refresher on Blower Safety

- Ear protection for all!
- Exhaust is hot
- Watch the intake for debris
- Swap tasks frequently to prevent wear and tear on your body

A Refresher on Leaves

 Check Blower for Gas

Blower → Rake → Hands

Effective Raking = Breathlessness

Pack your Bags with Intention

It is worth bringing the gas can with
you around a very large property



A Refresher on Leaves

Check Blower for Gas

Blower → Rake → Hands ←

Effective Raking = Breathlessness

Pack your Bags with Intention

Pack leaves into your bucket rather than putting handfuls in the bag.



A Refresher on Leaves

Check Blower for Gas

Rake → Blower → Rake → Hands ←

Effective Raking = Breathless

Pack your Bags with Intention

Evaluate the site conditions and
change your approach



A Refresher on Leaves

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Blower → Rake → Hands



Effective Raking = Breathlessness

Pack your Bags with Intention

Speaking more than a sentence
should be difficult



A Refresher on Leaves

Check Blower for Gas

Blower → Rake → Hands

Effective Raking = Breathlessness

Pack your Bags with Intention



Fill by weight, not volume
Pack into the corners of the bag



A Refresher on Leaves

Check Blower for Gas

Blower → Rake → Hands

Effective Raking = Breathlessness

Pack your Bags with Intention



Don't fight a floppy bag, make a base with a bucketful of debris to hold the bag upright.

