

MASTER GARDENERS OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY

PUTTING THE GARDEN TO BED

End of the Season Gardening Chores

**MASTER GARDENER HOTLINE**

(216) 429-8200, press 1

April through October

Call any time and leave a message. A Master Gardener Volunteer will call you back within a day or two. Or, to talk with a live Master Gardener, check our website for days and times.

cuyahogamg.org

Ask A Master Gardener online
<https://extension.osu.edu/ask-an-expert>

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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EVERGREENS & SHRUBS



Water deeply.

Wait until late in the winter to do any pruning. Do not prune any spring flowering shrubs (lilac, forsythia, etc.).

CONTAINERS

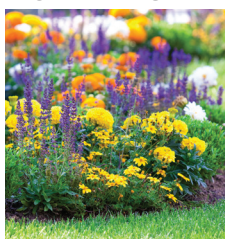


Remove dead plant material and compost.

Soil may remain in pots or be removed and composted.

Unglazed terracotta pots must be stored indoors. Glazed and synthetic containers can remain outdoors over the winter.

FLOWER BEDS



Cut back perennials and biennials and clean up dead materials.

Pull out dead annuals and compost if not diseased.

Do not trim back mums until spring.

Lift tender bulbs and store (begonias, dahlias, gladiolas, etc.).

Hardy bulbs can be planted until the ground is frozen (tulips, daffodils, crocus, etc.).

Hardy annuals can be sown: (calendula, bachelor buttons).

LAWNS



Rake or otherwise remove heavy layer of leaves.

Apply fertilizer in late fall to nourish grass roots and get a good start for next year.

If leaf covering is light, mow over the leaves or use a mulching blade to chop up leaves and return them to the lawn as nutrients.

Set the mower to cut lower than usual.

TOOLS



Clean and sharpen all hand tools. Wooden handles may be rubbed with linseed oil. Wash garden gloves.

Hoses should be drained of water and stored indoors.

Drain gasoline out of all mechanical equipment.

Mowers can be serviced in the fall or anytime in the winter.

Blades should be sharpened.

VEGETABLE GARDENS



Weed the garden and compost all debris.

Remove all stakes and cages, clean and store.

Clean up all diseased materials and dispose of in the garbage.

Plant a cover crop.

ROSES



Do not feed, only prune back long branches if there is a chance they will become damaged in the wind and break.

Clean up all dead and diseased materials in the bed (dispose of in garbage, don't compost).

For tea roses and shrub roses, put wire containers around the bushes and fill with leaves as mulch to protect.