

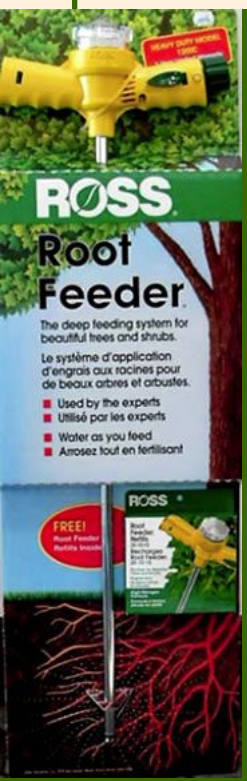
# Preparing Your Yard for Winter

Though many gardeners would love to avoid it, every year winter comes our way. When the snow flies, any work in the garden comes to a halt, so take advantage of our warm fall days to prepare your garden for winter. In doing so, you're eliminating many spring tasks, preventing insect and disease problems, and protecting plants for winter.

## Fertilize Your Lawn

The key to a quick greening of your lawn in spring is the amount of sugars that are present in the crowns; the crown is the section on plants where the roots and leaf blades meet. The key nutrient that will provide a supply of sugar is nitrogen - the first number in the list of three numbers you see on fertilizer bags. CIL 12-0-18 is a good fall blend.

**Timing is key!** Nitrogen must be applied late enough that the lawn has slowed growth, however not late enough that the nitrogen will go unused. The best time for fall application of fertilizers is September to mid October.



## Water Water Water!

All plants require plenty of moisture in fall, so the roots don't dry out through the winter. Deep root watering is the easiest and most economical way. Use a Ross Root Feeder or a slow drip from your garden hose. The block of ice that will form around your roots will ensure they stay hydrated during fluctuating winter temperatures.

## Eliminate Overwintering Insects and Diseases

Oil is a product that will suffocate overwintering insects. Once leaves have fallen from trees and shrubs, simply mix with water and spray onto branches. Note that temperatures need to be above 0° Celsius.

If you had any problems with fungal diseases such as powdery mildew this past summer, apply lime sulphur spray for great clean up results. As well, any leaves affected by insects or disease this season should be raked up and discarded to prevent problems next season.



780-467-7557

greenlandgarden.com

gardening@greenlandgarden.com

## Protect your Plants

Newly transplanted Cedars and Evergreens (as well as tender shrubs such as Rhododendron, Azalea and Boxwood) will require protection with burlap or Wilt Pruf to prevent winter winds from drying them out.

Be sure to secure stakes in the soil to support the burlap so it is at least 6" from the outer foliage. This same 'shelter' can be created with a large tomato cage with burlap wrapped around the outside.

For well established low growing evergreens, Wilt Pruf will work effectively, no barrier is needed. Please note that Wilt Pruf anti-desiccant spray must be applied when daytime temperatures are 0°C or above.

Tender roses should be mulched in after the ground freezes hard. Cut your tender roses to 7" from ground level. You can use Styrofoam Rose Huts or Rose Collars to protect plants. There is no need to mulch hardy roses.

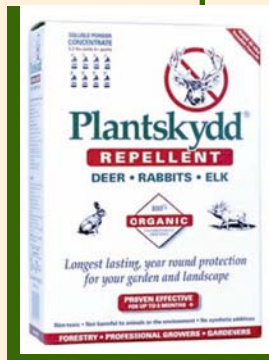
For mulch, simply mound peat moss, compost or clean leaves over the plants then place Rose Hut or Collar around the plant.

## SOIL

Any soil that needs replenishing should be amended with Soil Booster or compost. As well, dig in bone meal or kelp so plants are provided with minerals first thing in spring.

## ANIMAL REPELLANTS

Should be applied prior to freeze up – 2 types. Some repel by taste, some by scent. Skoot – can be applied via brush or spray and has a bitter taste, Plantskydd is made of dried pigs blood and repels by scent (animals smell it and sense danger). This product is very effective in deterring animals.



780-467-7557

[greenlandgarden.com](http://greenlandgarden.com)

[gardening@greenlandgarden.com](mailto:gardening@greenlandgarden.com)