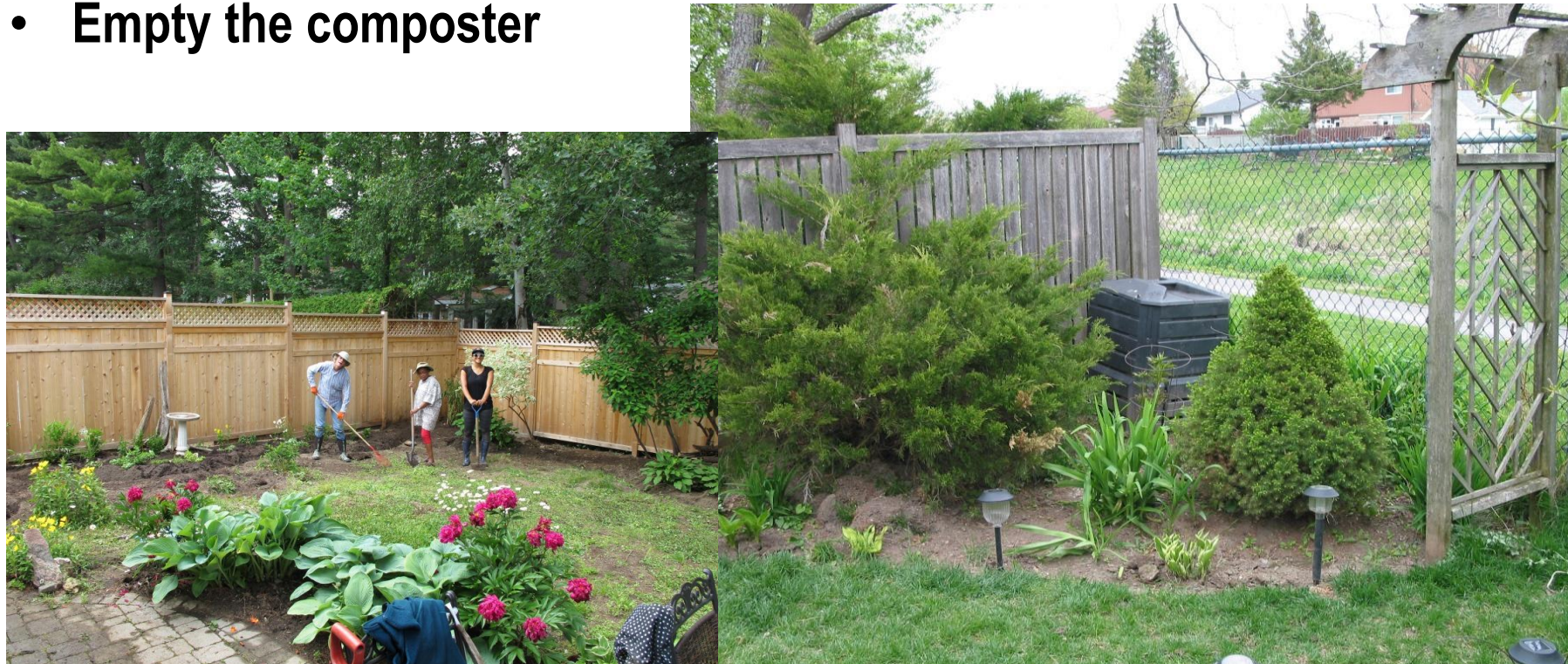




**FALL GARDEN CLEAN UP**

# GENERAL INFO:

- **Don't begin too early** Plants harden off in fall
  - Cutting back often stimulates new growth
- **Weeds can have pests, diseases and seeds**
- **Edge beds and Make new beds** to plant next spring. Amend soil for new beds, topdress (mulch) old beds with compost
- **Empty the composter**



# Bed clean up



- **Cut down foliage**
- **Compost** disease free plant material
- **Recycle** (City) plant material with pests or diseases
- **Leave annuals** to compost insitu, or cut and compost
- **Bring in** tender plants, corms, rhizomes or tubers
- **Check** for pests or diseases and treat accordingly.

- **Cut many to the ground** Hosta, Hemerocallis, Geranium, Dicentra
- **Plants with a low rosette of leaves** (Echinacea, Rudbeckia, Penstemon, Achillea). Depending on location either cut only the flower stems down or leave up because native bees lay eggs in the hollow stems to over winter.
- **Do not trim** low growing, broadleaf evergreen ground covers e.g. Ajuga, Alyssum, Arabis, Aubretia, Dianthus etc.
- **Prune in spring:** Perovskia, Buddleia, Clematis
- **Leave for winter interest:** Grasses, Coneflower (Echinacea), Black-Eyed Susan (Rudbeckia), Sedum, etc.



# Hardy Bulbs and Corms

- Plant any Fall Bulbs before you get a hard frost. Tulips, daffodils, crocus etc. are usually planted Sept. to Oct.
- Squirrels! Don't press the soil with bulb scented hands, drench soil, use chicken manure.





The 100% NATURAL FERTILIZER



# It's efficient!

Take it from Mother Hen.



## All purpose granular natural fertilizer

Pure hen manure 4-4-2

- **Keeps squirrels away!**  
Protect your bulbs and flowers. Acti-sol hen manure has a repulsive effect on squirrels.
- **Easy to use!**  
Directly sprinkle the granules on the ground and they will dissolve on contact with water.
- **Our grandmothers' best kept secret!**  
Hen manure is very effective. It contains a lot of calcium. Our grandmothers knew it...
- **Safe for children and pets!**  
Exclusively natural.



For other gardening tips: [www.acti-sol.ca](http://www.acti-sol.ca)

acti-sol  
 The 100% NATURAL FERTILIZER

# Tender Corms, Tubers

- Lift dahlias, gladiolus and store. Dig up, let soil dry off. Throw away damaged bulbs



# DIVIDING PERENNIALS



- **General Rule:** Divide spring/summer blooming plants in fall, (mid August to Oct.)
- Late summer/fall blooming plants are divided in spring.
- **Exceptions** are hybrid iris and oriental poppy – divide and move in July to mid Aug. Peony, can be transplanted mid Aug. to Oct.





# LAWNS

- **Kentucky Blue Grass** prefer cool temperatures
- **Mowing:** crowns are protected if grass is high for the winter
- But longer grass provides an ideal environment for diseases, and
- **Organic fall fertilizer:** Corn Gluten Meal, Little or no Nitrogen
- Or apply higher potassium (last number) to promote winter hardiness
- **September:** reseed and over seed, insure sufficient moisture
- **Apply nematodes** if you have a white grub problem
- **Rake leaves** especially maple leaves





## Reseeding in Fall or Spring.

Amend soil,  
tamp down soil,  
broadcast seed  
cover with burlap  
Remove burlap when  
it starts to germinate

# AMEND SOIL

- Add a layer of compost as mulch or work lightly into the soil.
- Mulching or working soil will reduce pest problems for:
- Hosta – slugs
- Areas where earwigs live
- Roses – rose sawflies





**Mulch for the winter:** Rhododendron or other acid loving plants with Oaks, Pines, Spruce leaves. Their acidic leaves break down, acidify soil, benefiting acid loving plants.

# WINTER PROTECTION

- **Cover broadleaf evergreen** ground covers (Japanese Spurge, Vinca) and shallow rooted plants (Primula) with evergreen tree branches to prevent dessication
- **Roses:** Mound soil around base of tender rose bushes (12" +) to protect graft union or use rose collars. Remove in early spring



# EVERGREENS

- **Water 2.5 cm /week until the soil freezes.**
- **Protect plants** exposed to wind, salt or snow falling from structures
- -Build a fence around plants / wrap fence with burlap, leaving opening at the top or wrap with mesh netting, wooden teepees, or bind multi-stemmed upright shrubs to prevent splitting.
- **Anti-dessicant spray** (but must be reapplied)



# DECIDUOUS TREES AND SHRUBS

- Remove and destroy fallen fruit and diseased leaves
- Inspect branches for overwintering eggs
- Take steps to repel deer and rodents
- Protect Thin Barked trees from sun damage (white covering)
- Feb / March – apply dormant oil (smothers overwintering insects and eggs) and lime sulphur (kills overwintering fungal spores)



# Fall Web Worm



# VEGETABLE GARDENS

- **Plan:** do not want to plant same crop year after year in same area
- **Cut plants down;** don't take the roots out of the soil
- **Remove** plant debris if disease is a problem
- **Mulch soil** as crops are harvested to bury insects and suffocate eggs
- **After harvest,** place compost or other amendments onto the soil.
- **Raise areas** in fall so the soil drain quickly and make walk ways. The soil will warm up quickly and it will reduce compaction. The garden can be planted early next year (April) because the soil has already been prepared.





# Tool clean up

- **Shovels, Hoes and Hand Tools** - remove dirt and sharpen
- **Secateurs, Pruning Saw** – sharpen, oil and sterilize
- **Lawn Mower, grass trimmers** – winterize it: drain fluids, replace oil filter, gas filter, spark plug, etc. Sharpen blade
- **Garden Hose** - Roll up and put away for winter. Turn off water to outside faucet.