

September Garden Tasks

East Dean & Friston Gardening Club



Sowing & Planting

- Sow salad crops: winter lettuce, lamb's lettuce, oriental leaves (mizuna, pak choi)
- Plant spring-flowering bulbs: daffodils, crocus, hyacinths, fritillaries
- Sow hardy annual flowers for next summer
- Plant new perennials while soil is warm
- Divide overcrowded perennials
- Start forcing rhubarb crowns
- Sow green manure on empty soil to protect over winter

Pruning & Cutting Back

- Prune summer-fruiting raspberries after harvest
- Cut back perennials that have finished flowering
- Trim evergreen hedges
- Deadhead faded blooms to prolong flowering
- Remove fallen fruit to avoid disease
- Lift and divide congested irises and other early summer perennials





Harvesting

- Harvest apples, pears, plums, and late raspberries
- Pick maincrop potatoes and store in paper sacks
- Collect seeds from flowers and veg
- Pick late beans, tomatoes, courgettes, squash



Watering & Feeding

- Water new plantings during dry spells
- Feed autumn-flowering plants as needed
- Reduce feeding of houseplants as growth slows

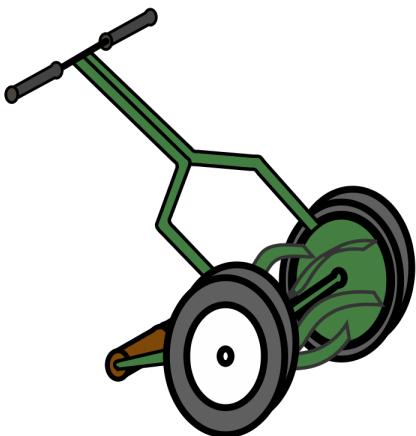


Greenhouse

- Check and remove shading as light levels drop
- Continue ventilating but avoid cold draughts
- Sow winter salad crops under cover
- Clean leaves and check for pests

Houseplants

- Reduce watering as light levels drop
- Clean leaves and check for pests
- Bring tender houseplants indoors before frosts
- Repot if roots are congested



Lawn Care

- Rake out moss and thatch (scarify)
- Aerate compacted areas
- Apply autumn lawn feed
- Sow new lawns or repair bare patches
- Keep mowing but gradually lower the height

General Maintenance

- Weed borders and paths before seeds set
- Prepare soil for autumn planting
- Check pond nets are in place to catch falling leaves
- Clean and store tools not in use
- Start composting fallen leaves for leaf mould
- Keep garden tidy to discourage pests over winter



And Finally...

Take a moment to enjoy the gentle shift into autumn. The days might be shorter, but the garden is still full of colour and promise. Brew a cup of tea (or something stronger), sit back, and admire your hard work!

