

FALL GARDEN MEDITATIONS

PLANT LIFE

} Cut back and transplant perennials. The energy stored in the roots of these plants will enable them to grow again next year. - At 717 Otisco, We planted some Lamb's Ear, and dug up some Stinging Nettle for transplanting.

} Plant flowering bulbs such as alliums or daffodils. - You can use flowering bulbs as part of a permaculture fruit tree guild as well, learn how at:
http://www.alchemicalnursery.org/files-a-media/cat_view/129-permaculture-resources.html

} Mulch and protect hardy crops such as greens and roots. - This insulation will either help store them for your use during winter, or help them survive to regrow stronger in the spring.

ENVIRONMENT

} Remove weeds and leaf debris to make as least a hospitable environment as possible for diseases and pests to overwinter - Compost these materials if they are weed and disease free.

} Clean up and observe your garden for winter enjoyment. - Gardens are meant for enjoying year round; clean or put away trash and other materials, and observe any aesthetic gaps in your garden that could be improved upon with plantings next year.

INFRASTRUCTURE

} Make needed structural changes. - level or build new raised beds now so they are ready come Spring. View the photo gallery of the Hugelkultur raised bed built at 717 Otisco by visiting: <http://www.meetup.com/Permaculture-and-Urban-Homesteading/photos/1098629/>

} Have your soil tested if you have not before, or if you plan on gardening in a new area. - Especially important if there was formerly a house that may have contained lead paint on site.

} Winterize containers; bring them inside or cover them to prevent water from getting in them so they do not freeze or crack. - Take care of those new rain barrels you received and setup this year, keep them in one piece for next year as well.

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