

# Garden Club Horticultural Hints

November 2021

Don't put away that trowel just yet!

**Finish planting your spring bulbs** while they can still begin to set roots. As you do, photograph the site so you can remember what you planted, and where.

*The easy-to-use Paint program provided with most computers allows you to draw and type on jpeg photos, then save on your computer for reference.*



*Commercial brands such as Liquid Fence and Bobbex use putrefied eggs and garlic oil to tell foragers 'this tastes awful'*

**Got Repellents?** It's time to spray your garden. Deer and other foragers (large and small) now find less to eat in the woods and fields and return to the buffets we call our gardens. Animal repellents smell bad to us for only a short time but the vile taste lingers teaching the animal to look elsewhere for food. Repellents can be applied anytime the temperature is above 40° and should be re-applied every three to four weeks throughout the winter.



**Save your ashes.** If you have wood fires, ashes should be saved to place around plants that prefer sweet (not acidic) soil, or to place over areas where you have planted spring bulbs. Always leave the ashes in the fireplace or outside on the ground, not the deck or porch, in a metal bucket until they are cold. Do not use the ash from man-made fireplace logs or from a charcoal grill.





**Late this month plan to prune your evergreens.** The cuttings can be used to make holiday arrangements for the house, fill window boxes or outdoor containers. And don't be concerned if pine or arborvitae are dropping some of their needles now. This is a normal part of their renewal. All evergreens shed their leaves at some time, just not all at once like deciduous trees.

*All of the greens and branches in this container can be found in New England gardens. Placed in moist soil in late November, they'll continue to be attractive well into the new year.*



**Indoor Gardening.** This is the rest period for indoor plants. Stop regular watering of cacti and most succulents during the winter months. Check monthly and water only if you see signs of wilting. Other house plants need less water to go along with the reduced sunlight and cooler temperatures they are experiencing. Eliminate fertilizer for the resting plants. Mist or add humidity with pebble trays for plants uncomfortable with dry air that comes with central heating.



*Plants such as this croton need additional moisture to prevent leaf drop in November and December*

**Plant up bulbs for forcing.**

Paperwhites need no chilling period, make great Christmas gifts and brighten everyone's home during the winter



*Written and created by Betty Sanders. For more horticultural suggestions for November and throughout the year, please visit [www.BettyOnGardening.com](http://www.BettyOnGardening.com)*