

October 2025 Newsletter

“Autumn leaves shower like gold, like rainbows, as the winds of change begin to blow, signaling the later days of autumn.”

Dan Millman

As the summer months pass, nature gives cues that change is in the air and a new season is soon approaching. With autumn's arrival come a vibrant color palette and new warm, cozy textures for our homes and yards. Let the inner you come out and venture into new and vibrant colors of fall ... have fun changing the mood of both your home and your garden! Happy Autumn!

OCTOBER GARDEN CLUB MEETING:

Date: October 8, 2025

Time: 9:30 AM - Set-up

10:00 AM - Business Meeting starts

10:30 - 11:00 - Social and Snack time

11:00AM - Program

12:30 - Clean-up

Location: Our Savior Lutheran Church
745 Front Street South
Issaquah, WA

Program: Patrick Spence will present about “Using Iris to Enhance Your Perennial Garden”. He's from Cascadia Iris which is a commercial nursery on 5 acres in Lake Stevens. He will showcase how we can use iris for year round blooms in our gardens.

Horticultural Corner: Dill Dianne T.

October Snack Committee:

Hostess: Deb M.

Crew: Debbie D.

Joan F.

Joanne W.

Shadi W.

November Snack Committee:

Hostess: Maura E.

Crew: Shadi W.

Gloria W.

Marie W.

Joan H.

REMEMBER THE SALE TABLE:

Bring items (including plants) to sell on the sale table! This helps us clean out unused items from our homes, provide shopping opportunities (Christmas is coming) for others and helps keep our bank account healthy. Bring lots of treasures to sell ...

LETS SAVE ON KITCHEN SUPPLIES:

Please remember to bring your own plate, napkin and silverware so we don't deplete the club's supplies and reduces our garbage footprint! And, attention coffee and tea drinkers - remember to bring your own cup (THANKS)

POST OFFICE TROUGH:

A sign-up sheet will be passed around for volunteers to check on the trough and surrounding area to make sure it is tidy and watered during the winter months:

Thanks to Gale B. for checking on the trough in September!

YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED:

September Meeting:

We are delighted to welcome two new members. Kelley O'Brien and Helen Scott. If you haven't met them already do introduce yourself and welcome them!

The Pressed Flower presentation was a hit! Besides getting to be creative and making something it was fun to get to visit and catch up. Seems like an arts and craft project is a nice way to kick-off the new garden club year.

September General Membership Meeting (GMM):

The General Membership Meeting (GMM) was a big success ... there were 67 attendees!

Business Meeting:

** Sherwood Forest was acknowledged with awards for both longevity and being a Scholarship Booster

** Issaquah was acknowledged for being a Scholarship Booster

** Remember that the District has Project Grans (up to \$1000) available. The deadline for application submissions will be March 15, 2026

Here are some factoids from the two speakers:

Steve Marple "Pollinator Environments":

** He has a "Give & Take" spot in front of his home at 24954 SE 30th Street, Sammamish. Stop by if you want to get seedlings/plants/seeds or to leave a donation for others to choose from.

** Soil suggestions - for an urban setting use a 3 way mix and for a woodland setting compost and wood chips

** When weeding minimize soil disturbance as there are many pollinators (bees and the like) that live in burrows in the ground and it's best if they are left undisturbed

** Weed suppression is best done with layers of cardboard. Resistant plants such as buttercup may need more than one treatment

** Steve highly recommends drip irrigation for all your watering needs

Heather Jellerson "Year Round Color Gardens":

** Structure: Backbone of the garden

** Texture: Leaf size/shape and branching habits

** Color: Adds a mood to your garden and remember contrast if key

** Consider the above principles for all seasons. Keep what you love and change what you don't.

SAVE THE DATES:

October 17, 2025 - Bellevue Botanical Garden Work Day - 9:00AM - 11:00AM

February 23, 2026 - General Membership Meeting (GMM)

EDUCATIONAL CORNER:

11 Perennials to Plant in Fall for a Stunning Spring Garden

Plant these flowers now to beautify your landscape later.

Thanks to its mild temperatures, fall is an incredible time of year to plant just about any perennial you want to see flourishing in your garden next year. Whether you want to add new bulbs to your [flower garden](#) or [fill in negative space](#) with more foliage, our gardening experts say these perennials will give you a stunning show come spring—just be sure to get them in the ground before your area's [first frost](#).

Meet the Expert

Erin Schanen, gardening expert and creator of [The Impatient Gardener](#) blog and YouTube channel.

Teri Speight, gardener and the author of [Black Flora: Profiles of Inspiring Black Flower Farmers and Florists](#)

PeggyAnne Montgomery, horticulturist and bulb expert for [Flowerbulbs.com](#)

RELATED: [25 Vegetables to Plant in Fall for a Cold-Weather Harvest](#)

Coral Bells

Coral Bells (*Heuchera americana*) boast colorful foliage and delicate flowers that bloom from late spring through summer. "With a range of colors from chartreuse to pink, silver, and orange, heuchera adds a shot of color to a garden or serves as a backdrop for a

star plant," says Erin Schanen, gardening expert and creator of The Impatient Gardener blog and YouTube channel.

Zones: 5 to 9

Size: 8 to 12 inches tall x 12 to 18 inches wide

Care requirements: Partial shade; rich, organic well-draining soil

Coneflower

Native plants are a star in the garden—they're [drought-tolerant](#), [disease-resistant](#), and [welcome essential pollinators](#). Coneflower (*Echinacea*), a popular native plant, is best planted in autumn. "These perennials add beauty to the garden when in bloom over the summer months," says Teri Speight, gardener and the author of *Black Flora: Profiles of Inspiring Black Flower Farmers and Florists*. "In the fall, I leave the seed heads so they can drop and provide new seedlings, unless they are eaten by the birds over the winter."

Zones: 3 to 9

Size: 3 to 4 feet tall x 1 to 2 feet wide

Care requirements: Full sun to part shade; moist, well-drained soil

Tips

Use fall's mild temperatures to plant perennials before the first frost. This will help ensure that the plants are well-established and ready to provide a beautiful display in the spring.

Russian Sage

If you want to bring beauty and pollinators to your garden, consider planting Russian sage (*Perovskia atriplicifolia*), a beautiful bloomer with silvery foliage and blue-purple flowers. "When planted near [evergreen shrubs](#), the gray stems add a touch of artistic whimsy to the landscape," says Speight. "In the springtime, the basal foliage often increases in size and can be divided or easily pruned."

Zones: 4 to 9

Size: 28 to 34 inches tall x 24 to 36 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun; well-drained soil

Shasta Daisy

When planted in fall, the roots of Shasta daisies (*Leucanthemum x superbum*) can develop deeply in the soil. When roots develop deep in the earth, the plant won't need as much water and can therefore withstand harsher conditions, says Speight.

Zones: 4 to 9

Size: 6 to 48 inches tall x 12 to 24 feet tall

Care requirements: Full sun; well-draining soil

Black-Eyed Susan

A well-known perennial to plant during fall is black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*). The [low-maintenance native plant](#) produces bright yellow blooms that bloom in late spring and continue into fall. Some varieties like Early Bird Gold will bloom earlier in the season.

Zones: 4 to 9

Size: 24 to 36 inches tall x 12 to 24 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun; well-drained soil

Hellebore

When planning your spring flower garden, you'll want to keep hellebores (*Helleborus*) in mind. This perennial is one of the first to bloom each year, usually around February.

"Different varieties offer blooms in a wide range of colors and shapes, with some that

face up and others that dangle down, but all are delightful harbingers of the gardening season to come," Schanen says.

Zones: 4 to 9

Size: 24 to 36 inches tall x 12 to 24 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun; well-drained soil

Mini Daffodil

Mini daffodils (*Cyclamineus narcissus*) bloom in early to mid-spring, but are best planted during fall. The plant has eye-catching sunshine-yellow flowers that are [long-lasting](#). They're small enough to add to the front of any perennial or shrub border and are great for [rock gardens](#) and containers, too. "These [bulbs naturalize](#), meaning they will multiply and come back every year," says PeggyAnne Montgomery, horticulturist and bulb expert for Flowerbulbs.com. "Best of all, deer won't eat them."

Zones: 4 to 8

Size: 8 to 10 inches tall x 4 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun to part sun; average, well-drained soil

Flowering Onion

There is nothing quite like flowering onion (*Allium schubertii*). "The flowers radiate from a central ball-shaped umbel up to 18 inches wide with up to 100 tiny florets," says Montgomery. "They bloom in late spring to early summer with reddish-purple flowers. The dried flower heads remain attractive and draw attention for many weeks." Like all allium, flowering onion attracts pollinators but won't be bothered by deer.

Zones: 3 to 8

Size: 16 to 18 inches tall x 18 to 20 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun; average, well-drained soil

Parrot Tulips

Parrot tulips should be planted where you can enjoy them up close, as the blooms have unique serrated flowers that bloom in streaks of color. "They come in every color combination you can think of," says Montgomery. "They bloom in mid-to-late spring when most other tulips have passed their peak. They make [outstanding cut flowers](#)."

Zones: 3 to 8

Size: 22 inches tall x 5 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun to part shade; average, well-drained soil

Crown Imperial

With tall sturdy stems that produce a crown of nodding flowers in shades of orange and yellow, crown imperial (*Fritillaria imperialis*) blooms in mid-spring, attracting butterflies and other beneficial pollinators. "Plant in groups, to attract attention even from a distance," says Montgomery. "They even help to [keep pesky moles and voles away](#)."

Zone: 3 to 8

Size: 32 to 40 inches tall x 10 to 12 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun; average, well-drained soil

Grape Hyacinth

Despite its name, grape hyacinth (*Muscari*) comes in every shade of blue, pink, and white (or a combination of hues) imaginable. "I can't think of anything that is easier to

grow," says Montgomery. "They multiply readily and flower longer than most bulbs." It looks beautiful planted along the front of borders and in containers.

Zones: 4 to 9

Size: 6 to 8 inches tall x 2 inches wide

Care requirements: Full sun to part shade; average, well-drained soil