



GARDENING IN THE FALL

Fall is such a beautiful season in Michigan. The weather turns cooler, leaves begin to change color and cider and donuts are back on the menu. What many people don't know is that fall is an excellent time to plant!

Here are some reasons to consider adding plants in the fall:

- 🍂 **COOLER TEMPS:** Fall weather is cooler, which can be less stressful for plants, reducing the risk of heat stress on new plants in the garden.
- 🍂 **WARMER SOIL:** Soil is still warm from the summer, encouraging root growth and allowing plants to establish strong root systems before winter.
- 🍂 **MORE MOISTURE:** Typically, there is more rainfall in autumn, making it easier for young plants to establish and thrive. Adequate moisture is crucial for root development.
- 🍂 **LESS EVAPORATION:** Fall has lower evaporation rates than the hot summer months. Therefore, water is less likely to evaporate from the soil too quickly, giving plants more time to absorb moisture.
- 🍂 **REDUCED WEEDS:** Weed growth tends to slow down during the fall, reducing competition for resources. This can make it easier for plants to establish.
- 🍂 **LESS PESTS:** Many pests become less active in the fall as temperatures drop, reducing the risk of pest damage to new plants.

🍂 **TIME TO ESTABLISH:** Fall planting gives plants time to establish themselves before facing the stress of next summers' heat. This can lead to healthier, more resilient plants.

🍂 **COST SAVINGS:** Nurseries and garden centers often have sales and discounts on plants and gardening supplies in the fall, making it a great time to stock-up.

Fall planting offers many advantages for gardeners, but be mindful of when frosts typically occur to ensure plants have enough time to establish before winter sets in.

