



# FALL PLANTING TIPS

Fall is a great time to plant as the soil temperature is warm and the sun isn't so intense. Many plug/small plants will use fall to establish the root system and become a nice, big, healthy plant next spring or summer.

## 1. COLLECT SEEDS

Collecting your own seeds not only saves you money next season, but also helps protect plants that do well in your region. Keep your harvested seeds dry and cool.



## 2. SOW SEEDS

Certain seeds need cold stratification — both cold and moist conditions — to know when to wake up and grow in the spring. As a bonus, fall-seeded plants tend to be healthier and bloom sooner than spring-seeded plants. Get a head start on your annual beds by planting seeds in fall!



## 3. LEAVE THE LEAVES

Fall leaves and standing dead plant matter provide food and shelter for pollinators (and other wildlife). You might be throwing out next year's butterflies and bees if you throw out your leaves in the fall! Create a leaf pile and allow it to break down naturally providing valuable organic matter for healthy soil.



## 4. SAVE THE STEMS

Avoid dead-heading or cutting plants to provide shelter for insects, as well as future nest materials for birds and bees. As a bonus, dried flower heads provide fall and winter food for local wildlife!

