

PREPARE YOUR PROPERTY FOR WINTER!

In the fall, it's important to prepare your garden for the winter season. The Green Line has some tips for protecting your land from the winter freeze so everything can bloom again in the spring.

YOUR LAWN

Aerating, top-dressing and overseeding

If you didn't get a chance to aerate, top-dress and overseed your lawn in the spring, autumn is also a good time for it. To find out more on these gardening techniques, check out our pamphlet *Growing a thick green lawn is easy!*

Clearing dead leaves

Dead leaves can deprive your lawn of light, which can cause it to die, so it's important to clear them away. However, you can shred your leaves as they fall and then scatter them across your property. This way, they help to fertilize the soil. However, if you find that the layer of dead leaves is too thick and blocks the light, it's better to compost them.

A final trim

While in the summer, you should cut your grass 7.5 cm tall to protect against dryness,

when you mow for the last time in the fall, **you should cut the grass down to 5 cm.** Leave the grass cuttings on the lawn after mowing. As they decompose, they make your lawn more fertile, which is called "grasscycling."

YOUR BORDERS

- Clean and weed your borders and remove annuals, leaves and any dead plants to prevent fungal diseases.
- Trim your perennials and roses before the first frost.
- If some of your plants wilt due to a lack of sunlight, transplant them to a more appropriate location.
- Add compost to your soil to enrich it.
- Plant tulip bulbs and other bulbs that bloom in the fall.

WINTER

PROTECTION



- For shrubs and new cedar plants, we recommend that you protect them during the winter by wrapping them in insulated material, or erecting a snow fence for hedges.
- Native species of roses do not need any winter protection beyond a solid layer of snow. However, it is important to protect other types of roses, as they are less resistant to the cold.

At the very first sign of frost, use pots made of Styrofoam or made of 100% recyclable material. These should be removed as early as possible in the spring to prevent any fungal diseases.



- You can use cover to protect your lawn in the winter. This will protect your lawn from winter debris such as salt, gravel and sand. In addition to reducing any winter messes, using a protective cover makes the clean-up easier in the spring.



The **Green Line** is your source for tips and guidance for lawn management and gardening.