

Garden Club Notes 11/12/2025

Putting Your Babies to Bed

Chris Brinton, Horticulture Chair

- Clear raised Veggie Garden beds and mulch with:
 - Cardboard
 - Ground up leaves
 - Pine needles for garlic and strawberries
 - Compost
- Bring in Geraniums and store in an unheated shed or garage. Reduce watering to once/2 weeks and after a month to 1/month. In the spring, you can increase watering and cut back damaged shoots and allow them to grow for moving outside. Pot selected plants and enjoy them in the house in a sunny window for the winter. They will become leggy but will provide some color.
- Plant new shrubs or relocate old shrubs. Use Mycorrhizal fungi on the roots to help with water and nutrient uptake and build the root system over the winter.
- Repot you houseplants, tidy and clean them up.
- Prune Raspberries. Remove spent brown canes at the base with a sharp pruner. Prune the tips of the new canes that appeared this year to about 5-6' tall. This will promote lateral branches on them and provide a larger crop of berries next year.
- Dusty Miller plants can be saved for several years. Prune back leggy and damaged shoots as well as blossoms. Cuttings can be taken and rooted in potting soil or in water for planting out next year.
- Create a cold frame if you have cattle trough raised beds by covering with translucent plastic corrugated roofing. You can store tender plants for the winter. When temperatures warm you will need to prop it open to prevent overheating.
- Blackberry canes as barbed wire for tender seedlings. Consider cutting dry hard canes in short lengths and use to create a "barbed wire fence" around your tender starts next spring to slow down slugs and snails. While not foolproof against the critters, it can reduce their impact.
- Tool and knife sharpening offered at the January Meeting.