

CELEBRATE FALL

THE VERY BEST TIME TO PLANT PERENNIALS

Master Gardeners Plant Sale – Union Co. Farmers Market Mark your calendar for the October 1st Perennial Plant Sale from 7:30 am until noon.

Towns-Union Master Gardeners are dividing their perennials and will have them available for sale. Just a few plants on sale are hosta, hellebore, lamb's ear, salvia, rudbeckia, stokes aster, ground covers, and many others. These are plants that grow successfully in the area. Donations and proceeds from the sale will benefit community gardening projects.

Fall and winter is generally a time of rest for your plants' blooms and often-time, their foliage. The roots are still viable, however, and will establish themselves and give the plant a head start for the spring. Below are a few reasons for planting in the fall.

- 1. Get a jump-start on spring growth. Planting perennials in the fall gives them a head start in the spring. Plants will start to grow once the ground thaws, before you could have worked the soil and planted in the spring.
- 2. The cool weather is healthy for the plant and YOU. If the hot, sweaty weather isn't for you, try gardening in the fall! The crisp, cool air makes for an enjoyable experience, leisurely planting, and working outside in the garden.
- 3. Less water is required. The colder weather helps eliminate evaporation, and shorter days mean photosynthesis slows down, resulting in your new plants requiring less water than if planted in the spring.
- 4. Less stress. The colder weather in fall also causes less stress on your new plants, allowing for the root systems to establish themselves in a comfortable environment before the winter.
- 5. Spring-blooming bulbs/tubers need to winter-over. Do you love colorful varieties such as iris and daffodils? These bulbs need to be planted in the fall and require a wintering-over time to provide gorgeous, cheerful spring blooms.