

# how to Prep Your Garden for fall

bird-friendly



**1. Leave the leaves!** *ground-foraging birds need them and they're nature's perfect mulch*

**2. Leave flower heads intact!** *the heads contain seeds (bird food) and leftovers will re-seed*

**3. Label your perennials.** *use waterproof stakes so you know what's what come spring*

## ***container gardens***

- ☑ Use containers that won't crack, such as metal, thick plastic, stone, concrete, and wood.
- ☑ Water between rains, only when the soil feels dry.
- ☑ Take stock of what's missing. Evergreens? Berries? Fall color? And add them to your spring shopping list. Or better yet, plant them now! Fall is the best time to plant trees, shrubs, and bulbs.

## ***in the ground***

- ☑ Plant now for more robust blooms in spring! Fall is the best time to plant trees, shrubs, and bulbs.
- ☑ Water new shrubs and trees through the first year.
- ☑ If you plan to replace more turf in spring, cover the area with a thick layer of mulch now.

***happy fall!***



**Audubon**