Wisdom from the Garden

As I placed some garden signs in the shed for the winter, I took a moment to reflect on my favorite titled, “Wisdom from the garden”. Do I have a favorite? I guess it is “Always keep growing”. I love to learn new things, but alas, I seem to be at the age where when something new goes into my memory.....something old goes out!

The cooler evening temperatures are reminding us that fall is here. With the arrival of fall one can count on two things happening soon, shorter days and an eventual hard freeze. On average, the first hard frosts in much of Ohio generally occur in October. Keeping this in mind, Dave Goerig and fellow Buckeye Yard and Gardeners have assembled this list of some of the chores to perform soon if they haven’t been done already. They include:

1. Take pictures of your accomplishments for 2015.
2. Mulch perennial beds, trees, and shrubs; fall is an excellent time to apply mulch to suppress winter annual weeds.
3. Harvest the last of the tender produce in your garden.
4. Label the tender bulbs and tuber plants that will be dug after the frost.
5. Keep emptying your rain gauge to avoid damage from freezing water.
6. Likewise, empty birdbaths and cover or flip them over to prevent rain water collection.
7. Bring in your houseplants.
8. Use compressed air to blow out shallow waterlines and garden hoses.
9. Select the flower displays worth prolonging; keep an eye on nighttime low temperatures and be prepared to cover them.
10. Empty your hand held sprayers. (Follow product label directions)
11. Drain pumps and filter bowls on power sprayers, blow water from boom or wand lines.
12. Properly prepare water gardens for the winter.

The schedule for the Garden Seminars hosted by the OSUE Brown County Master Gardeners has been finalized. Seminars are presented on the third Thursday of the month (except December) and are held at the Mt. Orab campus of Southern State Community College in room 107. Remember that all seminars are free and open to the public. The new time is 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The 2015-16 schedule includes:
Have you completed the pre-freeze checklist? I still need to store some fragile yard bling in my work shed. The pot of Rosemary and Catnip came inside before last weekend’s frigid temperatures. The leaves keep falling. It’s time to get shredding and adding them to the garden and compost!

Submitted by Faye Mahaffey
OSUE Brown County Master Gardener Volunteer