



Lael's Moon Garden

Plant Your Own Eden™

Fall Planting Sale

We are often asked, when is the best time to plant? Fortunately with our mild weather, you could plant almost any time here in the Pacific Northwest. Plants in containers or with their roots contained in burlap can be planted any time that a hard frost is not expected.

Transplanting most plants (digging them up and moving them) however requires waiting until the plants are dormant - generally after all the leaves have fallen off the trees in late fall and before they leaf out in the spring.

So when is best? Fall and early spring during our rainy season. During this time, even if the tops are dormant, the roots are busily spreading and helping the plant to become established. The better established a plant is, the better it is able to tolerate our dry summers.

Fall is the best time to plant new shade trees, shrubs and that windbreak or privacy screen you've wanted all summer. New fall plantings will not have to face hot weather (and the need for much supplemental watering) for almost seven months. Don't worry about winter cold harming fall plantings. Roots are well insulated in the ground and a three inch layer of mulch can provide added winter protection.

To encourage fall planting, we're offering some savings on our existing plant stock. You choose what is on sale - any combination of plants, pots or garden art totaling

- \$100 or more and you save \$10;
- purchase \$200 - 299 and you save \$25 and
- purchase \$300 or more - you save \$50.

Bring a friend, shop together and share the savings. Together you may save more.

Always wanted a large specimen tree - here's your chance to acquire that unique tree.

Or perhaps a few more tasty blueberries, apples, cherries, figs and more.

Print out the coupon at the end of this newsletter or download and print the coupon from our website at: <http://laelsmoongarden.com/specials.html>,

bring it in to the nursery and take home your choice of plants proven to do well in our climate.

Autumn is for Planting (And it Ain't Far Away!)

(Note: this is a reprint of an article from 2008 – We're busy harvesting our bumper crop of broccoli, zucchini, corn, peppers and tomatoes. All of the plants listed are good choices for the NW and we wanted to get the newsletter out with the fall planting coupon just as soon as possible. We hope you understand.)

There's a certain chill in the morning air, the goldfinches will soon be fading to a beautiful chestnut brown, and the incontinent starlings will be massing to do one final whitewash of your windows before departing for warmer climes. These are all important omens that the fall



planting season is fast approaching. But the absolute proof of it is that I am still far behind on many of the projects I intended to get done before the autumn rains begin.

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Another good reason to select and plant new trees and shrubs in the fall is that you can observe first hand their fall color. Many plants that have great fall color in crispy New England do not color up well in the soggy Northwest. But there are many trees and shrubs that have outstanding and reliable fall color here. Its helpful to see plants in autumn to see which colors you personally like. Some are subtle and some are bright. Because fall color is influenced by many factors including plant variety, dryness, drainage and weather conditions, you may want to make several trips to your favorite nurseries to see lots of fall color before you make your choices.

As a confirmed tree-hugging plant geek, I am always looking for unusual plants to add to the old standbys. Here are some less-common fall color plants I highly recommend for Northwest gardens:

- Beauty Berry "Profusion" (*Callicarpa bodinieri*) has tiny lavender flowers in summer that turn to bright, shiny lavender berries that remain after the leaves drop. The green leaves turn yellow-orange in fall making a sharp contrast with the lavender berries.
- Fothergilla "Mount Airy" is a 5-6 foot shrub with fragrant white bottle-brush flowers in spring and green leaves that turn bright red, orange and yellow in fall.
- Franklinia (*Franklinia alatamaha*) is an ten to 15 foot multi-stemmed shrub or small tree with shiny large teardrop leaves that turn bright red over burgundy at the same time as it produces white single camellia-like flowers in fall.
- Ginkgo "Autumn Gold" is a slow growing, open-branched tree with green leaves shaped like a duck's foot. They turn (you guessed it) bright gold in autumn.
- Oak leaf hydrangeas (*Hydrangea quercifolia*) are slow-growing shrubs that have panicles of white flowers in summer and scarlet to burgundy fall color.
- Smoke bush "Grace" (*Cotinus obovatus hybrid*) is a 6-10 foot shrub or small tree that has smoky purplish-orange over green summer foliage and bright scarlet fall color. The green leafed American smoke tree (*Cotinus obovatus*) also has outstanding red fall color.
- Red Maples (*Acer rubrum*) are large green shade trees that develop bright fall colors in the Northwest. "October Glory" is orange red, "Red Sunset" is scarlet, and "Burgundy Belle" is red over burgundy.
- Sourwood (*Oxydendrum arboreum*) is a 15-20 foot slow growing tree with excellent red fall color at the same time as it produces hanging clusters of small bell-shaped white flowers.
- Stewartia (*Stewartia monadelpha*, *S. pseudocamellia*, *S. rostrata*.) have very bright, glowing red and orange fall color. The 20 to 30 foot trees have white summer flowers like single camellias and older trees have flaky bark making interesting patterns on their trunks.



- Witch Hazel (*Hamamelis intermedia*) is a large shrub or small tree with fringe shaped flowers that hang from the bare zig-zag branches in winter. "Diane" has dark red flowers, "Jelena" has copper orange flowers and "Arnold Promise" has bright yellow flowers. All have bright orangy-red fall color with some overlay of burgundy and maroon.

Also recommended are lots of old standbys such as burning bushes and sweet gums, but they are too numerous to list here. Larger nurseries are usually stocked with a good selection of trees and shrubs well into autumn, but shop early for the best selection. Nurseries will often allow you to purchase plants and leave them in their care until you're ready to plant. So start early to plan for fall planting and if your timing is right you can have your plants in the ground before the weather is foggy and soggy and the ground is muddy and cruddy!

Link to view lots of fall color pictures from the nursery
<http://laelsmoongarden.com/displaygardens/photogalleryfall.html>

Fall Garden Shows

Come visit with us and lots of other nurseries. Score some plants to slake your plant habit. You'll find lots of rare, unusual and just good plants at the sales.

Visit Dozens of Nurseries at one location - Sept 16 and 17th -Northwest Horticultural Society (NHS) Fall Plant sale

Fri., 12:00-6:00 and Sat. 9:00-2:00.

Forty percent of proceeds from plant sales are generously donated to the NHS. The NHS provides inspiration and education to the Northwest gardening community through an ongoing series of lectures, symposiums, workshops and classes.

New Location: North Seattle Community College Cafeteria, 9600 College Way N, Seattle 98103

More info: http://www.northwesthort.org/plant_sales.html

Sept 24 and 25 - Chase Garden Fall Plant Sale

Chase Garden, 3.5 miles east of SR 161, 10615 264th St E, Orting, WA 98360

From 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Saturday and Sunday

Free admission to the garden for self-guided tours. Sale of fall-blooming cyclamen, dwarf shrubs, groundcovers and perennials - including bare root native perennials - the perfect time to transplant and establish for spring. Special selections from several invited vendors. Forty percent of vendor proceeds from the plant sale are generously donated to the Garden Conservancy. Find some great locally grown plants and help to keep this garden open to the public. Carpooling recommended. More information: <http://www.chasegarden.org/events.htm>
 Or 206-242-4040.

Lael's Moon Garden

Bethany and Larry Lael

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Plant Your Own Eden™

Largest Selection of Outdoor, Hardy Plants in the Area.

Located near the corner of St Hwy 12 and Moon Rd, 6 miles west of I-5, exit 88.

Open Thursday through Monday 10 AM to 6 PM. Other times by appt.



See web site for more details, nursery pictures, hours, directions and more.
<http://laelsmoongarden.com/visithoursmore.html>

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-----Coupon-----



Fall Planting Sale

Save \$10.00 on a purchase of \$100-\$199

Save \$25.00 on purchase of \$200-299

Save \$50.00 on \$300 or more

Details on our website @

<http://laelsmoongarden.com/specials.html>

Save \$10 to \$50

Limit One per Customer – Good at Nursery Only

Applies to Regular Price Items

Current Sales only - Not cumulative

Offer Expires: October 10, 2011

-----Coupon-----



Burning Bush and with hazel



Parrotia Persica



October Glory Maple



Darmera peltata –umbrella plant



Callicarpa Profusion



Diane Witch hazel

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