

Preparing Your Gardens for Winter – October 5, 2011

On the evening of the first major frost of the season, our members reaped the benefit of listening to **Lindley McPhail** speak to us about things we ought to be doing as the garden season draws to a close. Lindley's presentation, which was more like a friendly chat between friends sharing ideas, was a talk on "*Preparing Your Gardens for Winter*", a subject that interested all members present. The evening was immensely interesting.



Lindley covered almost every imaginable aspect of a fall clean-up:

- ✓ what to do with your vegetable gardens, including leaving certain vegetable to benefit from the cold weather;
- ✓ how to deal with your summer planters;
- ✓ how to store your tender tubers and bulbs over the winter;
- ✓ how to care for shrubs and small trees by creating tepees and windscreens to protect them from drying winter winds;
- ✓ protecting your berry patches;
- ✓ bringing in tender potted plants to spend the winter indoors (displacing some of your furniture!);
- ✓ collecting and labeling seeds;
- ✓ planting bulbs (and noting where you put them!);
- ✓ leaving plants with winter interest to show garden structure in the snow (grasses and seed bearing flowers such as *Echinacea*).

Many thanks to Lindley for speaking to the Greely Gardeners Group once again. We are certain that members will want to have her back again soon!