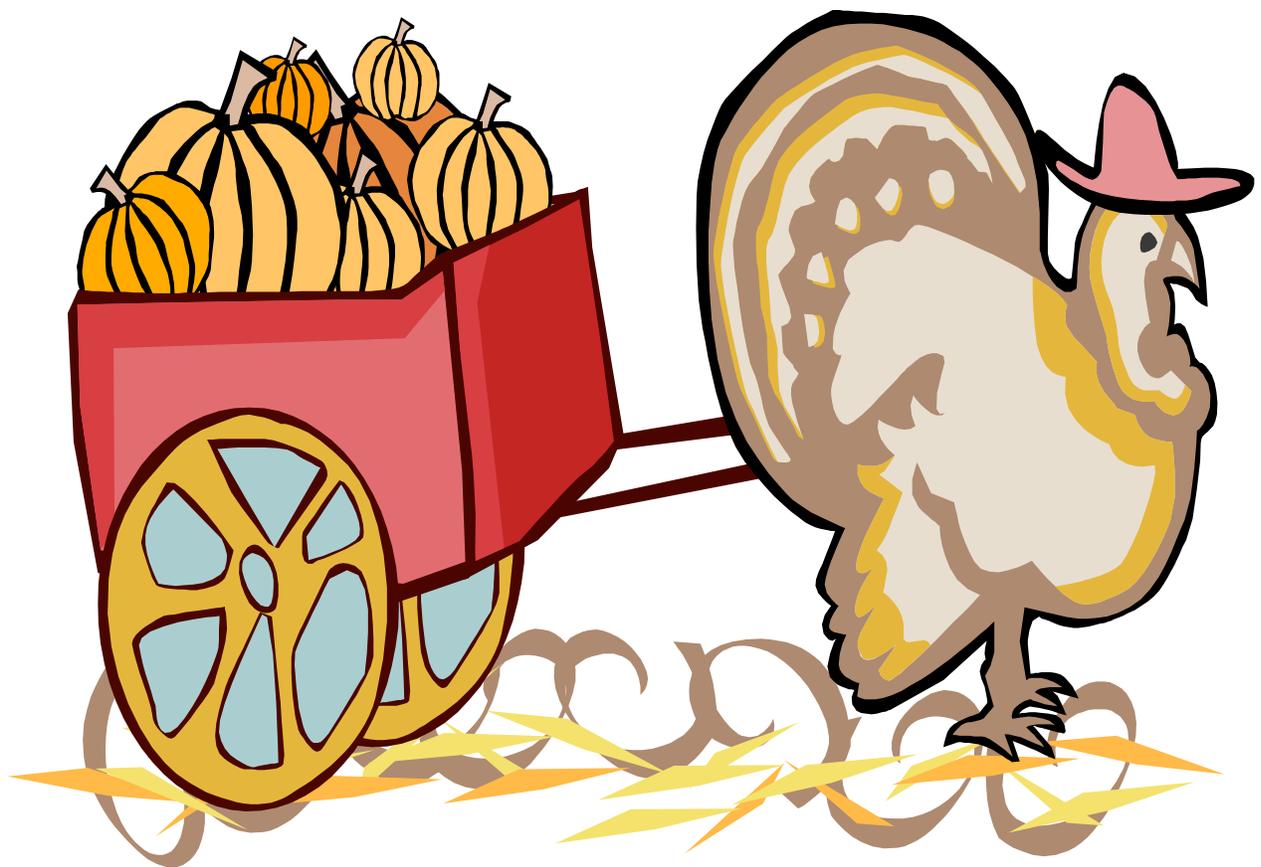




## Houston Laker



November 2009

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Things to put on your calendar!!

Sunday November 1<sup>st</sup>

At 2:00 a.m.

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Move your Clock Back One Hour



November 9 – City Council Meeting  
7:30 pm – City Hall

November 19 – Venetian Gardens Homes Association  
Board Meeting  
City Hall – 7:00 pm

November 24 – Recycling Day

From the Desk of the City Clerk:

In this issue we have included the new City Official list. You may want to replace the old list in your directory with this new revised list.



## **The Houston Lake Municipal Code:**

### **SECTION 230.025: OPEN BURNING**

No person shall dispose of trash, refuse or leaves by open burning or cause, allow or permit open burning of trash, refuse or leaves unless the same is authorized by Federal or State permit. (Ord. No. 176 §1, 5-9-88)

### **SECTION 500.100: BUILDING PERMIT REQUIRED**

All persons desiring to construct, erect, alter or add to any building, boat dock, fences, road or drive or any structure in the City of Houston Lake, Missouri, must first obtain a building permit for such construction, alteration or addition from the Board of Aldermen of said City. (Ord. No. 282 §2, 10-14-02)

**CITY OFFICIALS  
CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE**

**Mayor**

Michael Hallauer  
215-9138

**City Clerk**

Marsha Duncan  
419-5051

**City Collector**

Joyce Kullman  
547-8173

**Alderman (Ward 1 So.)**

Nick Jackalone  
587-0028

**Alderman (Ward 1 So.)**

Rick Cowan  
741-2730

**Alderman (Ward 2 No.)**

Phil Otte  
741-5477

**Alderman (Ward 2 No.)**

Dan Coronado  
584-2667

**Municipal Judge**

Greg Dorsey  
785-4284

**Court Clerk**

Sharon Brandt  
785-4284

**Codes Enforcement Officer**

Mitch Kelly  
584-9361

**VENETIAN GARDENS  
HOMES ASSOCIATION**

**President**

Gil Hughes  
283-3980

**Vice President**

Evadene Judge  
726-4456

**Treasurer**

Kerry Hallowell  
587-6654  
(Lake Tags)

**Secretary**

Pam Freese  
505-2151

**Board Member**

Bill Gay  
584-9548

**Houston Lake**

**Watershed Management**

**Committee**

Michael Hallauer  
215-9138

**Registrar**

**Editor - Houston Laker**

Mary Head  
741-5639

**Sewer Grinder Pumps**

Marsha Duncan  
419-5051

# CITY OF HOUSTON LAKE RECYCLING INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE FOR 2009-2010:

(Please post this on your memo board for reference)

1. You **do not need** to sort recyclable material. You **may** use your own containers along with the Blue Recycle Tub provided by Allied Waste.
2. Place your Blue Recycle tub with your own recycle containers. This will let the driver identify the recycled items.
3. Keep your trash and recycling material separated.

If your household wants to participate in our recycle program, please call or leave a message to receive a Blue Recycling tub.

City Hall – 741-0644  
City Clerk – 419-5051

## **2009- 2010 Schedule:**

October 27, 2009  
November 24, 2009  
December 22, 2009

January 19, 2010  
February 16, 2010  
March 16, 2010  
April 13, 2010  
May 11, 2010  
June 8, 2010  
July 6, 2010  
August 3, 2010  
August 31, 2010  
September 28, 2010  
October 26, 2010  
November 23, 2010  
December 21, 2010

The **Recycle** truck will only stop at houses using the **Blue Tub**.

## Thought You Should Know:

City Alderman Rick Cowan and I recently attended a Platte County Mayors Meeting in Riverside. The main topic for all the mayor's was recycling and how it may affect their citizens. I was amazed on how much I didn't know about recycling.

**Fact:** The three landfills that are used in this area, including Kansas will be closed (full) no later than 2027.

**Fact:** There is land that may be available for new landfills, but with "no assurances". The cost to create a new landfill is in the millions. This cost will be passed onto us in a higher trash pick-up rate. This rate increase is estimated at 60% within the next 20 years.

**Fact:** Every individual generates 6 pounds of waste every day.

**Fact:** About 80% of what people throw away is recyclable, yet our current rate is under 30% nationwide and under 25% in this area.

**Fact:** Recycling is a huge industry in the United States. A \$236 billion a year industry employing more than 1.1 million people. China imports huge amounts of wastepaper from the US because of the rising demand in consumer products. From 3.1 million tons in 1996 to 19.6 million tons in 2006.

**Fact:** This is the one that really hit home. Because of the rising costs of dumping, cities and trash companies are looking at the possibility of fining people that throw away recyclables in the trash. Kansas City is one of them.

I could add several more pages to this, but will save that for another Laker. The point is, how can you not feel good about creating jobs, boosting the economy, saving energy and helping the environment and not to mention averting the impending skyrocketing cost of trash pickup?

For those of you that think recycling is a waste of time or adhere to many of the anti recycling myths, I have to say this - soon, you may not have that option.

City Clerk

Marsha Duncan

November 9, 2009  
Council Meeting Agenda  
City of Houston Lake- City Hall 7:30 p.m.

**1. Opening Session**

**2. Public Discussion**

**3. Minutes**

**4. Building Permit**

**5. Treasurer's report**

**6. Paybills - Resolution No 11-09-09**

**7. Collector's Report**

**8. Police Report/Codes Report**

**9. Reports from Aldermen**

Mr. Cowan

Mr. Otte

Mr. Coronado

Mr. Jackalone

**10. Old Business**

- a. Street Repair Proposal
- b. Emergency Management

**11. New Business**

- a. City Web-site
- b. New Street Light - Edgewood Trail and Edgewood Circle

**12. Mayors Report**

**13. Closed Session**

a. A motion to enter into Closed Session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) for discussion of Legal issues, RSMo 610.021(2) for Real Estate (purchasing or selling) and RSMo 610.021(3) for Personnel issues.

**14. Re-enter Open Session**

**15. Adjournment**

**City of Houston Lake**  
**Unofficial Minutes of the Council Meeting**  
**October 12, 2009**

The Council of the City of Houston Lake met in regular session on September 14, 2009 at City Hall. The following members were present: Aldermen Nick Jackalone, Rick Cowan Phil Otte, Dan Coronado and City Collector Joyce Kullman.

**Opening Session**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Hallauer presided.

**Public Discussion**

No public discussion

**Minutes September 14, 2009**

The minutes were read and approved by general consent.

**Building Permits**

A final was approved by the Council for the building permit at 5335 NW Edgewood circle

**Treasurers Report**

Alderman Jackalone moved to accept the Treasurers report, seconded by Alderman Otte. Motion passed

**Resolution 10-12-09 (paybills)**

Alderman Cowan moved that we accept Resolution 10-14-09, seconded by Alderman Otte. Motion passed.

**Collectors Report**

City Collector Joyce Kullman presented to the Council a collectors report. The total deposits for the city of \$2587.34 were made for the period ending 9-30-09.

**Code Enforcement/Sheriff's Report**

A Code Enforcement Report was submitted to the Council by Mitch Kelly for the months of September/October 2009. A police report was submitted from the Platte County Sheriff's Department for 9-1-09 to 9-30-09.

Deputy Nancy Penrod from the Platte County Sheriff's Department was invited to the City Council meeting by Mayor Hallauer to answer any questions that the Council may have. Officer Penrod will attend City Council meetings periodically. Officer Penrod gave a full explanation of the Sheriff's monthly report to the council. She also stated that there still was far too many calls made to city officials instead of the Sheriff's Department. She stressed the importance of the delay of response that this may cause. She also explained that when a call comes in, the response time is directly related to the severity of the call.

If the Sheriff's Department is responding to an emergency of a greater degree, this will delay a response to a call of a lesser degree.

### **Reports from Aldermen**

**Alderman Cowan** – Alderman Cowan gave a comprehensive report on Emergency Management to the Council. He explained that he read the entire emergency plan and there are many procedures that have to be taken after a major disaster to be able to be reimbursed by FEMA and SEMA. He pointed out that it would be a good idea for the City to put in place some formal mutual aid agreements and City emergency spending provisions. A responsibility list and emergency contact lists should be filed with the county and 911 dispatcher. He also mentioned the preservation of City records as vital. Mayor Hallauer reported that Bookkeeper Kay Honeycutt and City Clerk Marsha Duncan are currently scanning their records to a flash drive. A flash drive will be provided to the Collector Joyce Kullman. Alderman Cowan also mentioned that on a separate issue, Mitigation, a requirement from the county is to fully develop a disaster plan in an emergency or show what steps we can take as a City to avoid a total disaster. He suggested that a hazardous waste spill on a 635 might be the easiest to present.

**Alderman Otte** –No report

**Alderman Coronado** –No report

**Alderman Jackalone** –Alderman Jackalone said that he had several residents request a street light be placed at Edgewood and Edgewood Circle. This will be placed on the agenda for next meeting.

### **Old Business**

a. Mayor Hallauer presented to the Council Bill No. 091409-2, an ordinance adopting the Platte County Emergency Operations Plan. A motion was made by Alderman Otte to place this bill on its first reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Coronado.

The City Clerk read Bill No, 091409-2 by title only.

A motion was made by Alderman Coronado to place this bill on its second reading by title only, seconded by Alderman Otte.

The City Clerk read Bill No. 091409-2 by title only.

A motion was made by Alderman cowan to place Bill No. 091409-2 on its final passage, seconded by Alderman Jackalone.

Roll call:

Jackalone – Aye

Cowan – Aye

Coronado – Aye

Otte – Aye

Bill No. 091409-2, Ordinance 326 was passed.

### **New Business**

a. Mayor Hallauer presented a proposal from McConnell & Associates for street repair. The proposal of \$14,540.00 was higher than the original estimate. The Council was asked if they wanted to accept this proposal or pursue other estimates. The Council requested other estimates.

b. The Council was presented with a copy of a “Cooperative Agreement” with the Platte County Collector. This agreement allows the county to collect abatements made by the City.

c. A copy of a letter from the Platte County Sheriff's Department regarding the "Shop with a Deputy", a Christmas program, was given to the Council. The council voted by general consent to donate \$250.00. The Council also voted by general consent to donate another \$250.00 to the City of Riverside for a similar Christmas program.

d. Mayor Hallauer presented to the Council a Resolution of Thanks to Jim Holloway. A motion was made by Alderman Cowan to pass this resolution, seconded by Alderman Jackalone.

Motion passed.

### **Mayors Report**

a. Mayor Hallauer told the Council that a resident on the lake offered to sand blast and put an undercoat on the City's newer truck for free. In doing this it was discovered that there was a hole in the gas tank. The tank was replaced.

b. The City of Riverside has started recycling glass. Houston Lake will be allowed to use this.

c. Mayor Hallauer told the Council that Kansas City has 4 major landfills which one of these is not being used at this time. 2 of these landfills will be full or closed in 7 to 8 years. One of the purposes of recycling is to extend the life of these landfills. If the metro area comes down to only having one landfill left, residents will see an enormous increase in trash rate bills. Fining people for throwing recyclables away is an option being looked into.

d. Jean Anderson, of Houston Lake, is creating a website for the City. Mayor Hallauer has been working with Jean on this project. Residents will be notified of the completion and the name of the site.

### **Closed Session**

Mayor Hallauer asked for a motion to enter into a closed session RSMo 6610.021(2) for Real Estate at 9:01 pm. Alderman Cowan made such motion, seconded by Alderman Coronado. Motion passed.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 pm

Venetian Garden Homes Association Annual Meeting

October 1, 2009

Board members present: Janette Boehm, president; Gil Hughes, vice president; Carolyn Carey, treasurer; Stephanie Stevick, secretary; Todd LaGessie. Janette Boehm opened meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes from April meeting were read by Boehm. Motions for approval and second were made from the floor; minutes approved with no changes.

Boehm went over the packet of information provided for homeowners. It included: Board calendar, deposits and expenditures, balance in accounts, 2010 budget, 2009 Year in Review, five/ten year goals.

The Board spent \$158,581.44 this year, detailed by line item. Several questions were posed from the floor regarding general maintenance, lawn mowing charges, lake tags and copy machine costs. Questions regarding purchase of a silt curtain were asked and it was explained that it was a cost-effective silt deterrent. Don Bundy stated that the Missouri Conservation Dept. has free plants that grow in the water and collect silt and that we should use in conjunction.

Ending balance in accounts are as follows: Checking Account Balance: \$10,953.24 (.1% Interest), Money Market Plus Balance: \$11,301.00(.5% Interest), Certificate of Deposit Balance: \$10,924.52 (2% Interest). TOTAL ALL ACCOUNTS: \$33,178.76. Books were audited by Marie Boehm, Grace Evans and Linda Charles. Books were in order.

Hughes stated that it boils down to this: "We spent all the money, but we got a lot done with it!"

The year in review was published in the September Houston Laker.

The budget for 2010, \$41,050, was approved. It includes dredging another 800 cubic yards, the amount of space we're still owed at the dumpsite. Though it's past the original deadline, Boehm has gotten assurances it would still be accepted. The budget will also be used to complete the rock around the peninsula and seed all disturbed areas.

Boehm presented a brief overview of a five and ten year plan compiled in a binder. It includes recommendations from each of the engineers that have examined our lake.

Richard Connell asked if the new Board could look into spraying the moss in the lake.

Bill Gay stated that over everything discussed there have been many great things done and things are straightening up pretty well.

The meeting moved to election of the new Board. Four positions were available, only Gil Hughes elected to run/remain on the Board. Three homeowners agreed to serve and were elected: Evadene Judge, Pam Freese and Kerry Hallowell. The membership did not vote for president and vice president as all members of the new Board declined to accept a nomination, choosing to vote among themselves once the final member is chosen by them.

Dues ballots were distributed and counted and the current dues amount will remain for 2010 -- \$295/yr. Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.



## October Venetian Gardens Home Owners Association Minutes

Date: 10/14/09

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Officer positions were chosen and are as follows:

President - Gil Hughes  
Vice President - Evadene Judge  
Treasurer - Kerry Hollowell  
Secretary - Pam Freese

Discussion of turn over items needed from the previous board: 5 and 10 year plan book, keys, safety deposit box, and bank signatures

Discussion was held concerning the rock currently left on the peninsula, we have had several inquiries into obtaining it for use around shorelines. This will be further discussed at next month's meeting.

Critchfield Crane Services offered to remove another 1000 cubic yards of mud from the lake for \$3,250 but turned him down do to lack of budgeted money for more mud removal.

Gil is checking into the requirements for placing the turbulent curtain.

The board interviewed the 3 candidates for the remaining open position on the board, all 3 were very interesting and had different abilities to bring to the board. After the interview, the board chose to appoint Bill Gay to the empty position.

The next VGHOA meeting is scheduled for 11/19/09 at 7pm at City Hall.

The agenda for the November meeting is:

Call to order

Treasurer's report

Form the survey for the December newsletter

Discuss the formation of committees for various concerns/areas of interest

New business

Close

## Riverside Gets Glass Recycling This Fall

**G**lass recycling is about to take off in the Kansas City, and Riverside is part of the movement. The City recently entered into an agreement with Ripple Glass to place a glass recycling drop off container on the civic campus. The container will be available in November and will be one of many containers located all over the metro area.

"For years residents have been looking for a place to recycle glass and now we'll have a Ripple Glass bin right here at City Hall. This project has been a long time coming and I'm very excited to offer this in our community," Mayor Kathy Rose said.

Ripple Glass, a new local recycling company, will launch a glass recycling program with 60 collection bins around the metro area to collect used glass containers. The company is presently constructing a state-of-the-art processing facility, where those containers will be

converted into pure, ready-to-use recycled glass. Local companies can then reuse it to make environmentally friendly products, including PINK Fiberglas™ insulation, saving enormous amounts of energy and raw materials. Visit [rippleglasskc.com](http://rippleglasskc.com) for details.



**ripple**

### Fast Facts about Glass Recycling

In KC, only about 5% of glass is recycled. The average rate in the US is 30% and in California is 76%.

Glass usually isn't collected in curbside recycling programs because it breaks and contaminates the other materials collected.

Ripple Glass will accept all glass food and beverage containers of any color. Labels can be left on.

[www.rippleglasskc.com](http://www.rippleglasskc.com)

# 15<sup>th</sup> Annual "Shop with a Deputy" Platte County Sheriff's Department



The "Shop with A Deputy" Program gives Platte County underprivileged children a positive image and contact with law enforcement officers. They eat breakfast together, shop together, and become friends.

Most of the 448 children served over the last decade would not have had a Christmas without this program. All of the children were referred by the Platte County United Services.

The deputies require that each child spend a certain percentage of the allotted money on clothing, underwear, jeans, socks, shoes, and coats. Some of these children have never had these items new, they have only had hand-me-downs. The remainder of the money is spent on toys or other items. As the deputies shopped with the children they found that several of them needed more than the items the children picked out. The deputies then dug into their own pockets to make sure they all got what was needed.



The Platte County Program was started in 1995 with a grant from the Missouri Deputy Sheriff's Association. Since then all of the money used has been raised by the deputies and from donations from generous citizens, just like yourself.

If you would like to help, send your donations to:  
Platte County Sheriff's Department  
Shop with a Deputy Program  
C/O Captain Mark Owen  
415 Third St., Suite 10  
Platte City, MO 64079-8462



## From the Kitchen of.....Richard Connell

Richard is Houston Lakes best kept secret. He should have his own cooking show on Food Network!! If you ever get to taste some of Richard's cakes, prize winning chili, peanut brittle (Michael's favorite), feel honored because it's good stuff. Betty is certainly a luck lady. We may just have discovered their secret to a long and wonderful marriage. Listen up guys.

Richard told me about this recipe while down at the Community Garden one day. This is an old recipe from his days at TWA. I had never heard of Pickled Green Tomatoes before but you can bet I will be making this every year. It's wonderful!!

### Pickled Green Tomatoes

From Richard Connell

Green Tomatoes - about a peck

Cauliflower - 2 heads

Onion or pearl onions

Green peppers

Carrots - you may use baby carrots

Jalapeno or Habanera - or any pepper to your taste

Garlic cloves

Dill or dill seed if desired

Cut veggies as desired. Bring water (enough to cover veggies) to a boil. Pour in veggies

If you have a recipe or some hints that you would like to share with us, please contact Marsha at [mduncannkc@aol.com](mailto:mduncannkc@aol.com) or Mary at [maryjewelh@aol.com](mailto:maryjewelh@aol.com)



*Mary, Kathy and Mike*

*Can use help hanging  
Christmas Decorations.*

*If you like to help*

*Please call*

*Mary Head - 741-5639*



# GARDEN TIPS

## It's time to plant bulbs!!!



Bulbs should be planted as soon as the ground is cool. In most parts of the country, this would be around the time of the first frosts, when evening temperatures average between 40° to 50° F. But you should plant at least six weeks before the ground freezes. You can, if necessary, store bulbs for a month or longer, if you keep them in a cool dry place. When in doubt, however, the bulbs belong in the ground. They won't last till next season.

•Where to plant. You can plant bulbs just about anywhere in your garden — so long as the soil drains well. The Dutch say, "bulbs don't like wet feet." So, avoid areas where water collects, such as the bottom of hills. Bulbs also like sun. But the spring garden is very sunny — the leaves aren't on the trees yet. Get creative!

- Plant the pointy end up. That's about all you need to know. It's easy to spot the pointy end of a tulip. Tougher with a crocus. But in most cases, even if you don't get it right, the bulb flower will still find its way topside.
- Plant big bulbs about 8-inches deep and small bulbs about 5-inches
- No fertilizer is necessary for the first year's bloom. Bulbs are natural storehouses of food. They don't need anything to flower the first year. For bulbs that are intended to naturalize or perennialize (return for several years) or for bulbs that are coming into their second year, spread an organic fertilizer such as compost or well-rotted cow manure, or a slow release bulb food on top of the soil.
- If you do fertilize, never mix fertilizer in the planting hole. It can burn the roots. Also don't follow the old adage of adding bone meal. Modern bone meal adds little nutritional value. It can also encourage pests and even dogs to dig up your bulbs looking for bones!
- Plant bulbs in clusters. Don't plant one bulb alone, or make a long thin line along the walk. Clusters give a concentration of color for greatest impact. Even if you don't have enough bulbs for a big bed, small clusters can make a super spring show.

### Container

There are many considerations in deciding which container to use. For many individuals, containers need to be lightweight, easily reached and portable. Match your container to what you want to grow. Small plants can be grown in smaller containers, whereas, larger plants need to be planted in larger pots. Many materials can be used for containers, depending on one imagination and ease of gardening.



## Planter Mix:

- 1 part pine or fir bark (nuggets)
- 1 part ground pine or fir bark
- 1 part peat moss
- 1/2 oz. dolomite limestone per gallon
- 1/4 oz. triple super phosphate per gallon

## Pot Plant Mix for containers up to one gallon in size

- 1 part peat moss
- 1 part vermiculite
- 1/2 oz. dolomite limestone per gallon
- 1/4 oz. triple super phosphate per gallon

## Planting , Transplanting, Fertilization and Preparing Containers for the Winter

Potting soils are composed of organic material and mineral parts. Organic parts may contain one or a combination of any two parts such as peat moss, fir bark, redwood sawdust, shavings, pine bark, or hardwood bark. Minerals may include one or a combination of vermiculite, perlite, pumice, builder' s sand, or granite sand with vermiculite, perlite and sand being the most commonly used. Vermiculite is a mica material, which expands under heat, and the granules retain water in air spaces. Perlite also expands under heat but water is retained around the granules instead of in them. Perlite retains water and provides a lighter soil through aeration. Aeration is critical for root development and plant growth.

When purchasing plants from a garden center or nursery, be sure to keep the soil moist until you are ready to repot the plant. Never pull the plants directly from the containers. Squeeze the plant from the bottom or the container to push the rootball up. You can tap a larger container to loosen the plant from the original pot.

If necessary, prune the roots that have formed outside of the rootball by making 3 or 4 cuttings on the side of the rootball with sharp knife. Your plant will form new roots and root development will be accelerated. Transplant the plant into a new container by holding the plant at the same level as the container and place soil around the rootball. Keep the soil moist until roots have spread to surrounding soil.

Annual plants, such as geraniums, begonias and coleus can be bought inside or cutting made to start new plants for the following year. Tropical plants, such as tropical hibiscus will not survive the winter and need to be bought indoors.

Plants in containers need to have fertilizer replaced regularly as there is a tendency for potting soils to drain water more rapidly, causing the fertilizer to be washed out. Some gardeners prefer to fertilize every other time they water. If you are using liquid fertilizer, then only use 1/4 of the rate recommended on packaging. Plants do not need a large amount of fertilizer, but consistency is important. Many gardeners use timed-release fertilizers available in three-month or twelve-month formulas. Fertilizer is released in small amounts, as the plant needs them.

Watering plants continue to be important during the fall and winter months. Before the ground freezes, water all container plants thoroughly. Check the plants throughout the winter. When the temperatures are above freezing and the ground is thawed, water plants.

Containers and planter boxes that are attached to the house will dry out even more because of the heat loss from the house. If containers are protected with overhangs, plants will not get adequate moisture from snow and rain.

Applying mulch to container plants will help prevent drying out and provide insulation from the winter cold. A rock mulch can be used if there is potential for termite damage or fire. Straw bales provide insulation for containers left outdoors to prevent roots from severe temperature changes.

Don't forget to take precautions for empty containers. Small containers made from clay, plastic or metal need to have the soil removed and the containers cleaned in a weak solution of 10 parts water and 1 part bleach. Store the containers indoors or if left outdoors, turn upside down in a protected place. Winter freezing and thawing may crack the containers if water is left standing in them. Wooden containers should not have the soil removed as the wood may dry out and shrink if empty.