Fall is in the air, which may make you want to hang up the rake. Don't give up just yet, though – we're coming in the home stretch! Consider these fall tips from the USU Extension Gardeners Almanac. Also included are links for further information.

- **Click here** if you are interested in saving seeds.
- **Learn about how and when to harvest** watermelon and cantaloupe.
- **For storing potatoes**, harvest the tubers once the vines have died down.
- **Harvest garlic and onions** once the tops have dried down. Allow them to dry for 2-3 weeks before storing.
- **Store potatoes, garlic and onions** in a cool/dry location (32-40 F) away from apples.
- **Fall is the perfect time of year for planting trees and shrubs.**
- **Go hiking in the hills to enjoy autumn colors.**
- **Divide crowded, spring-blooming perennials.**
- **Check pears for ripeness** once the fruit twists easily off the tree and seeds are dark colored, allowing them to finish ripening off the tree.
- **Early in September, apply a slow-release lawn fertilizer** to provide a long-lasting effect throughout the fall months.
- **As temperatures cool**, turfgrass requires minimal irrigation each week. Click here for irrigation needs in your area.
- **Plant new lawns or repair** insect/diseased areas with grass seed, allowing 4-6 weeks for establishment before heavy frosts.

**Pests and Problems:**

- **To control raspberry crown borer**, use a root drench during late summer to early fall. Click here for more information.
- **Learn about what causes bitter pit and other problems in apples.**
- **Control rust mites** in apple and pear trees after fruit is harvested and before leaf drop. Click here for information.
- **Box Elder bugs congregate** on sunny surfaces during the fall months. Click here to learn about controlling these nuisance pests.
- **Monitor for damaging turfgrass insects.**

- In compacted sites, aerate with hollow core aerator when turfgrass is actively growing in September and October.