



November 2017

Dishing the Dirt with the Sherburne County Master Gardeners

The Sherburne County Master Gardeners are sending this out to you to keep you informed of our upcoming events, to share garden tips and to let you know what we have been doing. We hope that you enjoy reading this.

30TH ANNIVERSARY HIGHLIGHTS ORNAMENTAL GRASSES TREND FOR LOW-MAINTENANCE GARDENS

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As summer flowers fade and the leaves turn fall colors in Minnesota, many varieties of ornamental grasses are at their majestic peak and in full flower. They stand from 3 feet to as much as 12 feet in height (although some are shorter), as vibrant kings of the perennial garden with their jaunty, yet graceful looks.

Ornamental grasses have not only become key components in the driving trend toward sustainable and low-maintenance landscapes, but their strong vertical lines

offer living sculpture in today's native gardening mix.

"Today there's a real interest in native grasses and using native cultivars in the garden," said Mary Meyer, the University of Minnesota Extension professor and educator who maintains the only collection of ornamental grasses accredited by the American Public Garden Association in the U.S. "We went from having exotics from the non-natives and huge numbers of Miscanthus [in the collection] to more and more North American native species. And really the grasses that are native in the prairie."

SOURCE: <http://blog-yard-garden-news.extension.umn.edu/>

NOVEMBER GARDENING TIP

Remove frozen plants from containers and hanging baskets and replace them with evergreen boughs, branches with colorful berries and interesting seed heads from perennials and ornamental grasses.