

A decorative illustration of a teal-colored branch with several clusters of oval-shaped leaves, hanging from the top left corner of the page.

OCTOBER EARTHCARE TIPS

- Stock up on bird seed and suet for the winter months.
- Keep your hummingbird feeders full until two weeks after the last migrant has left.
- Enjoy migration by going to a local hawk watch. Check your Audubon chapter to find out the nearest site.
- Rake fallen leaves under shrubs and into garden beds as a protective mulch layer. Or, shred fallen leaves with a mower and let them remain on the lawn as mulch. Or, simply place collected leaves into your compost along with other garden debris.
- Leave certain garden cleanup chores for the spring. Remove rotted debris to prevent the harboring of pests and diseases, but allow spent grasses and other seed bearing plants to remain standing throughout the winter as a food source for the birds.
- Add organic matter to the soil by tilling in summer mulch and adding compost or manure.