



**September**  
**Last Quarter 4**  
**New Moon 12**  
**First Quarter 18**  
**Full Moon 26**  
**Day's Length**  
**12h 52m-11h 55m**

*Improve*  
*Soil*  
 in the Autumn

Healthy soil equals healthy plants, and experienced gardeners know to nourish the soil, not the crop. Maintaining healthy soil isn't difficult, but it does require a bit of planning.

Fall is the best time to prepare new garden beds and amend existing ones. Creating dark, loose, loamy soil takes numerous applications of organic matter and a little patience. You can speed things up, however, by combining some basic soil-building techniques- incorporating aged manure and then planting a cover crop, for example.

If you need to raise the pH of your soil, apply horticultural lime in the autumn once the crops have been harvested. Lime won't burn or otherwise injure your plants, but it can be difficult for the lime to reach the soil if the beds are filled with crops.



Producing your own compost from kitchen scrapes and garden waste is an easy and inexpensive way to invest in the health of your soil and help maximize the amount of food your garden produces.

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	Fall Fest 5 
6 	Labor Day 7	8	9	10	Patriot Day 11	Rosh Hashanah 12
Grandparents Day 13	14	15	16	Constitution Day 17	U.S. Air Force Birthday 18	19
Yom kippur 20	International Day of Peace 21	Autum Begins 22 	23 	24 	25	Sukkot 26 <b>Harvest Moon</b>
27	28	29	30			