

Beale Wildlife Park - Gardening Team Blog: November

Welcome to the latest blog from our Gardening Team.

Each month the blog will include information about the jobs that we have been doing in the gardens here and offer some hints and tips for your own garden.

The dahlias in our tiered border have all been lifted and the bulb planting is well under way. Four varieties of daffodil bulb will be planted out in this area which should give us a lovely spring display.



Our seasonal display plants which are frost tender have now been gathered in to the greenhouse to overwinter.

Gardener's tip: As we bring in the plants, each one is given a quick health check to make sure that it is healthy and has no pests or diseases. If you are bringing one of your own plants in for overwintering check for things like Moulds and Whitefly and remove any part of the plant showing signs of die back or weakness.

We have started propagating via cuttings in preparation for next season's display. These include a variety of salvias, pelargoniums and Argyranthemums. Seed sowing will begin in late January.



Gardener's tip: Taking cuttings from your favourite perennial plant can be a good way to preserve it from an unusually cold winter.

We have completed the winter protection of our larger plants which includes: tree fern's, gunnera and agave. This involved fleecing of the tree fern's crown and growing point of the stem. If the temperature drops consistently below zero more protection will be added.

The gunneras have had their crown protected with straw, leaves removed and placed over the plant then covered with some old carpet to keep them nice and cosy. The larger agave have had a plastic shelter placed over them to prevent rot in the event of a cold and wet winter.



The Gardening Team welcomes any questions you may have regarding this month's blog.