



Growing Beyond The Ordinary

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# MARCH

Due to the extreme weather in November we are just starting to see the effects of winter damage on plants. Do general pruning to clean up plants and wait to see how the plant material leafs out before doing any major pruning. Apply Dr. Earth Fertilizers and top dress with Soil Building Compost.

## PLANNING

- Plan your vegetable garden for spring, summer and fall vegetables
- Don't have room for a vegetable garden? Plan your vegetable container garden
- Look through garden magazines, visit the nursery and see what looks good, and what you need to add to your landscape

## PREP

- If soil is dry enough, prepare your vegetable garden area - apply compost
- Clean and prep flowerbeds & containers

## PLANTING

### FRUIT & VEGETABLES

- Strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, currants, gooseberries, rhubarb - see our help sheets
- Early cool season crops: carrots, beets, leeks, parsley, chives, peas, radish, spinach, kale, kohlrabi & celery can be directly seeded into your garden
- Be sure to use Garden Inoculants on peas and, later, beans for better growth and higher production
- Pre-started: broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, spinach, leeks, onions, peas, Brussels sprouts, lettuce can be planted
- Pre-start vegetables indoors: tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers to be set out in garden after danger of frost is gone
- MID - MARCH - potatoes, onion sets & shallots

## FLOWERS

- Cool season annuals: pansies, violas, snapdragons, dusty miller, dianthus
- Iris's, sweet peas
- Pre start indoors: annuals to be set out after last frost date.
- Bring out over wintered geraniums, fuchsias, begonias - water and lightly fertilize
- PRUNE
- Spring and fall flowering clematis - fall clematis produce flowering buds on new wood and can be trimmed to strongest canes. Spring flowering clematis should be pruned after they are done blooming
- Fruit trees - except cherries
- Gooseberries, currants, grapes & kiwi
- Early spring flowering shrubs after they are done blooming
- Ornamental shrubs - prune for air circulation - help prevent fungus diseases
- Trim or sheer Heather when they are done blooming
- Cut back Ornamental grasses a few inches from ground
- Prune trees and shrubs showing winter damage
- Prune: Butterfly Bushes, Crape Myrtle, Oak leaf Hydrangeas, Rose of Sharon's, Clethra, & Caryopteris -these shrubs bloom on new wood
- Hedges - spindly hedges can be helped with a hard pruning - fertilize when done

## FERTILIZE

- Lime and fertilize fruit trees
- Gooseberries, currants, blueberries
- Asparagus & Rhubarb
- Evergreen shrubs and trees - if needed
- Rhododendron, camellias, azaleas
- Cane berries -raspberries, blackberries, boysenberries, loganberries, raspberries
- Roses - apply Dr. Earth Alfalfa meal & Dr. Earth Rose & Flower Fertilizer
- Fertilize perennials, groundcovers & vines as growth appears
- Daffodils, crocus, snowdrops, and tulips with Espoma Bulb Tone

COMPOST / MULCH - when applying compost and/or mulch around your trees be sure to keep it pulled away from the crown of your plants

- Apply Soil Building Compost and Harvest Supreme Compost to your vegetable garden
- Apply 3 to 4 inches of Soil Building Compost around fruit trees
- Apply 3 to 4 inches of Soil Building Compost around small fruits: raspberries, blueberries, grapes, currants, gooseberries,
- 3 to 4" of Harvest Supreme around Rhubarbs.
- 3 to 4" of Harvest Supreme over your asparagus bed

All planting areas will benefit with a 2 to 4" layer of compost / mulch

## DIVIDING

- Ornamental grasses - if needed
- Hosta, daylilies, mums, rudbeckia, salvia - you can tell when perennials need to be divided when centers become less vigorous or die out in the middle

## APPLY - preventatives

- Sulphur dust around Iris, Peonies, Gladiolus, and other plants to help prevent fungal diseases
- Infuse fungicide to Roses, Photinia, Exbury Azaleas, to help prevent black spot, powdery mildew
- Aluminum Sulphate to Hydrangeas to encourage beautiful blue flowers
- Bonide Annual Tree & Shrub Insect Control to Birches, Beech, Willows, Firs, Spruce, and Pines
- **MID MARCH**
- Apply pre-emergent to flower beds - use Treflan and Concern Weed Preventor

## DEAD HEAD

- Dead head spring blooming bulbs when they are through blooming
- Primroses, pansies and spring flowering trees and shrubs

## PROTECT

- Protect new plant growth from slugs and snails
- Apply Mole Max to deter Mole activity in your

landscape

- Spray trees and shrubs for webworm and leaf rollers use Bonide Captain Jacks at first sign of webbing.
- Apply Bonide Grub Buster - for Crane fly control
- Put out Coddling Moth Traps

## LAWN

- Begin mowing as needed
- Apply Garden Pearls Lime
- Overseed - if necessary
- Thatch
- Apply Bonide Weed Beater Complete - granular on lawns not needing to be re-seeded.
- Fertilize - for organic lawns use Dr. Earth Lawn Fertilizer or Simplot 22-2-12 for slow release.
- Moss control - Lilly Miller Moss Out! Or, Lilly Miller Moss Out plus Fertilizer
- Grub Beater for Crane fly Control

## BIRDS

- Put out bird feeder
- Clean existing bird feeders
- Feed birds

## WATER GARDEN

- Re-pot root bound water plants
- Put in Microbe Lift bacterial water conditioner
- Feed your water plants with Aquatic plant tablets
- (do not fertilize Water lilies until you see 3 to 5 leaves (if you feed them too early they will rot)
- For String Algae - Green Clean
- For Cloudy green water and String Algae - use Algae Fix
- Remove dead organic matter from bottom of the pond to help prevent algae.
- We suggest not feeding fish until water temperatures is above 50 degrees consistently

## BONSAI

This is a great time to "Lift your Bonsai out of their pots"

- Check your trees root zone for health
- Look for and remove any slug eggs, pill bugs, worms and dead roots.
- Clean away any soil fines that have accumulated in the bottom of the pot and on the screens
- Root prune if needed
- Reposition & Repot