



Timely Tips March

Roses

1. In late March, gradually start pulling back the compost or mulch layer from around your rose bushes and prune out any dead or diseased canes. Be sure to keep your pruners sanitized with a weak bleach solution or rubbing alcohol.

Ornamental & Lawn

2. Apply *Green View Crabgrass + Lawn Food* to your lawn if you do not plan to re-seed portions of your lawn.
3. Mow lawn to remove brown tips and old growth before new growth begins.
4. Begin spring cleanup! Cut off withered perennial tops and remove damaged foliage or old seed heads left from last year.
5. Cut back ornamental grasses and hardy hibiscus to about 6" above the ground.
6. Once any cleanup is taken care of, start re-mulching your landscape beds.
7. Apply *Espoma Corn Gluten*, an organic pre-emergent, to flower beds to help keep weeds from growing.
8. Fertilize bulbs with *Espoma Bulb Tone* if you haven't fertilized them already.
9. Apply *Fertilome Tree & Shrub Food* to all of your deciduous trees and shrubs.
10. Apply *Fertilome Evergreen Food* to all of your evergreen trees and shrubs.
11. Apply *Fertilome Rhododendron Food* to all of your azaleas and rhododendrons.
12. Plant pansies and other cool weather annuals.
13. Protect your trees from borers by installing *Ace-Caps*, this is a systemic insecticide that is carried with the sap throughout the tree as it starts to "wake-up" this spring.
14. Pay close attention for aphids on new, tender foliage and spray with *Fertilome Triple Action Plus* if needed.
15. Finish applying any dormant oil sprays while day and night temperatures are over 40°F and under 80°F.

Fruits & Vegetables

1. Fertilize and prepare soil in your vegetable garden to prepare for planting.
2. Asparagus and rhubarb should be planted as soon as weather and soil permit.
3. Plant broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, and onion starts.
4. Start tomatoes, peppers and eggplant indoor by seed.
5. Strawberries, grapes, and other berries can be planted now.

Houseplants

1. Finish re-potting houseplants if you didn't do so during the winter time.

Birds & Wildlife

1. Put up bluebird and purple martin houses as they will be returning and looking for nesting sites.
2. Clean out old birdhouses and make any needed repairs.
3. Spray *Liquid Fence* on tulips and other tasty new plants in your yard to protect from deer damage.

Water Gardens

1. Begin adding *Barley Straw* and other enzymes to your water garden now in prevent algae outbreaks.