

March To Do List

- It's time to mulch and edge your garden beds and fertilize your existing plants. We like to use any of the Espoma fertilizers (***Plant-tone, Holly-tone, Rose-tone***) because they are slow release and won't harm your plants.
- Cut back hybrid tea and repeat blooming roses before the buds break. Wait to prune one time blooming roses until after they have bloomed. Crape myrtles, butterfly bush, group C and group B clematis should also be pruned in late winter/early spring.
- Cut back liriopse and ornamental grasses before new growth begins.
- Prune early spring flowering shrubs such as forsythia, quince, winter honeysuckle and winter jasmine immediately after the flowers fade.
- Divide and transplant perennials if needed. [Here's](#) a great site to help out.
- Plant pansies, violas and primroses for early spring color in the landscape.
- Apply vole deterrent such as ***imustgarden's*** Mole and Vole Repellent. Go to www.imustgarden.com/repel-moles-voles/ to read about voles and how to affectively apply the granular repellent. We now also carry the hose end application repellent.
- Get a jump start on spring. Check your seed packets to find out how long it takes the different varieties to sprout. Mark the last frost date (April 20th) on the calendar and count back the number of weeks needed for sprouting. This is the date you should sow your seeds indoors.
- If you haven't done so already, remove dead fronds from your asparagus plants.
- Refer to "[Fruit Tree Spray Program](#)" for pest and fungus control. This is a PDF file. If unable to open, we have copies here at garden center.
- Plant early vegetables such as onion sets, rhubarb, asparagus, lettuce, spinach, kale and potatoes. Plant peas when the soil temperature is around 45 or 50 degrees. If planted too early, they may rot. Some recommend 6 weeks before last frost date.
- Apply preemergent to garden beds to prevent weeds from germinating. Be sure you do not plan to plant flower seeds in the area as they will not germinate either.
- For all your new plantings, we recommend using ***Espoma Bio-Tone Starter Plus*** at the time of planting. This will encourage root growth and help get the plant off to a vigorous start..
- March is a great time to get your lawn into shape by liming, seeding, fertilizing and preventing crabgrass and other weeds.
- Seed lawn with good quality grass seed that is suited for the conditions of your lawn.
- If needed, lime the lawn to raise soil pH. Lawns prefer a pH range of 6.2 - 6.8. If your test shows a level lower than 6.0 or you have not limed the lawn in the past two years, you should lime at the rate of 50 lb. of lime per 1,000 square feet of lawn area. This will raise the pH 1/2 point. If you need to apply more lime, wait six weeks between applications.