



MARCH GARDENING TIPS

ANNUALS

- Acclimate warm-season annual transplants to the outdoors over a 2 week period by taking them outside for a couple of hours a day, gradually increasing the time, until they are used to the sunshine and cool nights.
- Direct seed warm-season annuals into the garden once the danger of frost has passed San Antonio.

TURF

- Apply pre-emergent weed products by mid March for best effectiveness.
 - Organic fertilizer can be applied Mid Feb-early March, Synthetic fertilizer is applied in April.
- Organic: Texas Tee, Medina Growin' Green, Fertilome
Synthetic: Rainbow Gardens 19-5-9 Spring Formula

TREES & SHRUBS

- If you can, finish planting trees and shrubs within the month of March, so that you give the roots of these plants ample time to get established so they can survive their first San Antonio summer.
- Finish pruning summer-blooming shrubs this month.
- Prune spring flowering shrubs immediately after they finish blooming.
- Prune Crape Myrtles mid to late march but only for shaping. DO NOT TOP THEM!
- Finish up pruning roses this month. (Not spring bloomers!)

VEGGIES

- Plant tomatoes in garden beds around March 15th. Use row fabric to protect from windy days and cooler nights.
- Plan and space out the rest of your vegetable gardens. Tons of veggies are in the nursery now. If you plan, you won't be overwhelmed with choices.
- Plant both perennial and annual herbs now. Keep in mind cool weather herbs like cilantro will bolt quickly in the heat, and hot weather herbs like basil will need protection if the temps dip.

PERENNIALS

- We've already noticed signs of the spring butterfly migration coming to our city. Pick up some blooming perennials so they can fortify their journey with nectar, and load up on host plants so they have a welcome spot to lay their eggs.
- The hummingbirds will be here hot on the tails (well, wings) of the butterflies, so look through our Pollinator Host and Nectar plant lists on our website to get some great ideas for ideal plants.
- Perennials planted this month and next get a great start and are more likely to survive our brutal summers.