



## GARDEN CARE FOR APRIL FROM YOUR SICKLES EXPERTS

### CLEAN

Now is the time to clean your beds of leaves and debris to help control from insects.

- After cleaning your beds, add in a 2" layer of Bumper Crop to the bed and under trees and shrubs. This rich, organic compost will feed your plants and also help to retain moisture.
- Additional fertilizer such as Plant Tone and Dr. Earth can also be added
- Holly Tone for acid loving plants can be applied to Camellias, Hollies, Rhododendrons, Azaleas, Magnolias, and evergreens.
- Osmocote is a timed release fertilizer that will feed your plants for 3 months. After Osmocote is added, mulch over using cedar or black licorice mulch. This will keep the moisture at an even level and give the beds a neat appearance.

Check planted containers for moisture and begin to fertilize

### PLANT

Plant Cool weather annuals such as Pansies, Stock, Snapdragons & Dianthus

Plant Perennials and divide those that have outgrown their space like Hosta, Daylilies & Lily of the Valley

Plant summer flowering bulbs like Lilies, Gladiolas, Iris, Cannas & Elephant Ears

### PRUNE

Prune back your Roses

- Cut out older canes and any dead growth
- Feed Roses with Rose Tone and apply Bayer 3-in-One, a systemic insect and disease control along with a fertilizer; this will last up to 6 weeks, saving you a lots of time
- Secure climbing roses to their structure to prevent blowing in the wind

Trim and secure vines such as Clematis and Honeysuckle of any dead growth

- Trim again after flowering

Dead head faded flowers on Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths, and other spring flowering bulbs

- Leave the foliage to die naturally; this will feed the bulbs & help them flower for next year

Most spring flowering shrubs, such as Forsythia, can be pruned after the flowers fade and before new growth starts

## **UNWRAP**

Fruit Trees

- Time to unwrap your Fig Tree
- Cut away any dead branches and feed with Dr. Earth Fruit Tree Fertilizer & mulch
- Feed blueberries and Raspberries along with other fruit trees at this time also
- Osmocote can be added to your fruit trees

## **START YOUR VEGETABLE GARDEN**

- Dig in a 2" layer of Bumper Crop along with Plant Tone, Dr. Earth Vegetable Fertilizer, or Osmocote
- Plant cool weather crops such as Lettuce, Beets, Onions, Broccoli, Cauliflower, Kale, Cabbage, Peas, and Carrots
- Plant Strawberries now to get a summer crop

## **MORE TIPS...**

Apply lawn fertilizer and insect control now

Spot seed any bare spots in your lawn with Scotts Patch Master

Keep seeded areas moist at all times to get maximum seed germination

Keep an eye on your house plants

- Water often (as days get longer and the sun gets stronger)
- Begin to fertilize to nourish new growth