

THE FRONT YARD NURSERY NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION FOR HARD PAN GARDENERS

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SPRING 2013



GARDEN QUOTE: "The deep roots never doubt spring will come." -Marty Rubin



SPRING GARDEN CALENDAR



March

- Put yellow jacket traps out early to trap the Queen.
- Plant cool season vegetables. Sow warm season veggies indoors. See us for a planting guide.
- Rototill gardens and add organic matter. Do a soil test to see what nutrients you need to add. We have soil test kits available. Save \$\$ by adding only what your soil needs.
- Fertilize roses, evergreens, fruit trees, and berries.
- Prepare new lawn beds 6" deep. Stop by for a handout on lawn preparation.
- Shop for summer blooming bulbs and spring blooming shrubs.
- Spray roses with fungicide to prevent black spot and powdery mildew. Try kelp spray and see us for care guides.
- Hoe or pick spring weeds. Apply a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent weeds. We have an organic option!
- Hand-pick or spray star thistle seedlings before they bolt (develop flowers).
- SEMINAR: Veggie Gardening Basics: Getting Started. March 23 (Sat) and March 25 (Mon): at 10:00 am.** This seminar will cover the basics of starting your veggie garden, including deciding a suitable site, raised beds vs. in-ground, prepping the soil, critter protection, irrigation, and what you should do at the initial planting, including choosing crops and fertilizing.
- March 23-25 (Sat - Mon) The Front Yard Nursery's 21st Anniversary Sale! 15% off all purchases** (not valid with other discounts, special orders, net items, sod, or irrigation). **Free** popcorn, lemonade, raffle, and more. Join us!



- Fertilize spring blooming shrubs, ground covers, & conifers.
- Hand-pick or spray star thistle seedlings before they bolt.
- Prune spring blooming shrubs (lilacs, forsythia, etc.) immediately after bloom.
- Plant or divide perennials.
- Potted roses arriving throughout the month. See us or visit our website for a list of varieties.
- Rototill gardens and add organic matter. Do a soil test to see what nutrients you need to add. We have soil test kits available.
- Thin fruit on fruit trees & fertilize. See us for products & handouts.
- Set out codling moth traps in your apple trees. See us for a disease and spray schedule. (This is the worm that ends up in your apple later!)
- Apply borer spray and whitewash trunks on fruit trees and flowering cherries.
- SEMINAR: "Veggie Gardening: Beyond the Basics – "Growing Season to Harvest" April 13 & 15, April 27 & April 29 (Sat & Mon) 10am.** More in-depth information about preparing, planting, and maintaining your veggie garden, including creating a fertilizing schedule, problem-solving, and tricks of the trade.



May

- April 15th is the estimated last frost date for the Placerville area; El Dorado Hills estimated date is April 1st; and Pollock Pines is May 1st. Local lore and long time residents say don't plant until Mother's Day without protection.
- Sow annual flowers and warm season vegetables outdoors after the last frost.
- Sow seeds of cold hardy perennials such as Veronica, Columbine, & Coral bells after the last frost.
- Set out traps for earwigs and snails. Traps can be homemade or bought. See us for products and ideas.

April



- Plant warm season vegetable seeds or starts.
- Prune spring blooming shrubs immediately after bloom.
- Check roses for aphids and hose off plants if you find any. Feed roses with systemic fertilizer if needed.
- Start a new lawn from seed or sod. Stop by for a free planting guide.
- Thin fruit set on fruit trees (leave 6" between the ones you want to ripen). Prune for size control as needed.
- Mow lawns, removing less than 1/3rd the height. See us for a lawn care handout.
- Plant summer annual flowers and perennials.
- Fertilize container plants with time-release fertilizer.
- Thin over-abundant seedlings in vegetable beds.
- Check and repair irrigation systems.
- May 12th Mother's Day – Get your mom a spring blooming plant that she can enjoy year after year, or a gift card.
- SEMINAR: Our famous "Drip Irrigation Made Simple" May 18 & 20, June 8 & 10 (Sat & Mon), 9am – 11am.** Learn to save water and time in your landscape and garden!

