

# THE FRONT YARD NURSERY NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION FOR HARD PAN GARDENERS

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## SPRING 2017



**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 only adding what your soil needs, and get better yields!
  - 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 including kelp spray and see us for care guides.
  - Hoe or pick spring weeds. Apply a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent weeds. We have organic and synthetic options
  - Hand-pick or spray star thistle seedlings before they bolt (develop flowers).
  - With a rainy late winter and spring, there will be more pools of standing water, a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Eliminate any containers or pools of water as best you can. See us for safe, biological remedy controls.
- SEMINAR: "Veggie Gardening A to Z - March 25 and March 27 at 10:00 am.** This seminar will cover choosing a suitable site, prepping your beds or containers, critter protection, the best type of irrigation for your needs, what crops to grow from plant or seed, fertilizing, along with incorporating veggies into your landscape.



#### April

- April 15<sup>th</sup> is the estimated last frost date for the Placerville area; El Dorado Hills estimated date is April 1<sup>st</sup>; and Pollock Pines is May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- April 16<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday: open all day 8:30 - 6pm
- Sow annual flowers and warm season vegetables outdoors after the last frost and ground temps warm up.
- Sow seeds of cold hardy perennials such as Veronica, Columbine, & Coral bells after the last frost.
- Sow wildflower seeds before the last rains.
- Fertilize spring blooming shrubs, ground covers, conifers.
- Prune spring blooming shrubs (lilacs, forsythia, etc.) immediately after bloom.
- Set out traps for earwigs and snails. Traps can be homemade or bought. See us for products and ideas.



#### April (cont.)

- Rototill gardens and add organic matter. Do a soil test to see what nutrients you need to add. We have soil test kits available.
  - Plant or divide perennials.
  - Thin fruit trees and fertilize. See us for products and handouts.
  - Watch for leaf miners on your citrus plants. We have traps and remedies.
  - Set out codling moth traps in your apple trees. (This is the worm that ends up in your apple later!) See us for a disease spray schedule.
  - Apply borer spray, whitewash trunks on fruit trees and flowering cherries.
- April 8-10 (Sat - Mon) The Front Yard Nursery's 25th 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!
- SEMINAR: "There Is Still Time to Plant Your Garden"** (encore presentation of Veggie Gardening seminar) **April 22 & 24 (Sat & Mon) 10am.**



#### May

- Plant warm season vegetable seeds or starts.
  - Watch for fungal problems on your plants with all of the wet weather. See us for remedies and solutions.
  - Prune spring blooming shrubs immediately after bloom.
  - Check roses for aphids and hose off plants if you find any. Keep your roses healthy with organic fertilizer and mulching with organic compost to fight disease and insects.
  - 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 or a slow release organic fertilizer.
  - Thin over-abundant seedlings in vegetable beds.
  - Check and repair irrigation systems.
  - May 14<sup>th</sup> 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 20 & 22, June 17 & 19 (Sat & Mon), 9am – 11am.** Learn to save water and time in your landscape and garden!

