March Garden Tips

GENERAL

- Continue planting seeds of warm-season annuals indoors. Gradually harden off transplants by setting them outdoors during the daytime for about a week before planting. Transplant to the garden after danger of frost.
- Don't plow your garden when the soil is wet. It will form clods which are difficult to break up and interfere with cultivation during the summer.
- Turn the compost pile.
- Follow last fall's soil test recommendations for fertilizer and pH adjustment. It's not too late to test soil if you missed last year.

HOME (Indoor plants and activities)

- Check stored bulbs and produce for decay; discard damaged items.
- Rotate, prune, repot and clean houseplants as needed. Fertilize as new growth appears.
- Propagate houseplants such as geraniums, coleus, impatiens, etc. to be used as bedding and containers plants outdoors.



LANDSCAPE (Lawns, trees, shrubs and flowers)

- Once the ground has thawed enough, transplant clumps of ornamental grasses to give them an early start on the new season's growth.
- Watch for blooms of early spring bulbs, such as daffodils, squill, crocus, dwarf iris and snowdrops.
- ® Continue pruning trees and shrubs, except those that bloom early in spring, while plants are still dormant.
- Plant new trees and shrubs as soon as soil dries enough to be worked. Plant bare-root plants before they leaf out.
- Fertilize woody plants before new growth begins, but after soil temperatures have reached 40°F.
- Remove tree rodent covers and adjust tree supports to make room for this year's growth.
- Remove winter coverings from roses as soon as new growth begins. Prune and fertilize as needed.

GARDEN (Vegetables, fruits, and herbs)

- As the ground has dried enough to work, plant cool-season vegetables. Plant or transplant asparagus, rhubarb and small fruit plants.
- Remove winter mulch from strawberry beds as soon as new growth begins, but keep the mulch nearby to protect against frost and freezes.
- Remove weak, diseased or damaged canes from raspberry plants before new growth begins.
- Prune grapevines.



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March Pictures/Sketches/ Observations

