

January 11, 2017

Lawn:

- You should pre-apply gypsum to areas of your lawn that you anticipate will be exposed to snow mixed with salt. Also, treat the lawn areas along side where ice melters will be used (i.e. near drive ways and sidewalks). Repeat these gypsum applications in early spring to avoid damage from the salt.
- Dormant Over-seeding
- Dormant seeding or over-seeding with [RTF water-saver tall fescue grass seed](#) or [HGT Blue grass seed](#), can be done once between now and the end of February. Cover the [RTF water-saver grass seed](#) with *Leaf Grow* or compost.
- When Dormant Over-seeding, Remember this spring, not to use [Dimension Crabgrass Preventer](#) to prevent crabgrass, because it will damage the newly germinated grass seed; only [Tupersan](#) can be used to prevent summer crabgrass.
- [SpeedZone Broad Leaf Weed Killer](#) cannot be used to control broad leaf weeds this spring until the newly sown baby grass has been mowed twice.
- Make the spring [Turf Trust](#) application on the entire lawn in early spring according to the lawn schedule.
- DO NOT WORK ON THE LAWN WHILE THE LAWN IS FROZEN.
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Winter Tips:

- Spray snow shovels, snow blades, and discharge shutes of snow blowers, and impellers of snow blowers with *Silicone* spray so that snow will not stick to these pieces of equipment.
- To increase traction on snowy and icy areas, apply course, sharp sand.
- Make sure pond deicer and bird bath warmers are working.

House plants:

- Continue feeding house plants with [Seamate](#). Add one tablespoon of vinegar once a month when growing Citrus, jasmine, or gardenia plants to keep the pH down.
- Do not water orchids with ice cubes, feed orchids with seamate fertilizer.
- Do not overwater house plants especially Christmas cactus, African violets, Jade, Chinese evergreen, and orchids.
- Houseplants that need to be re-potted should be re-potted in late February.
- Continue removing spent amaryllis flowers. Remove each flower after it has died. Then after all flowers have died on that stem, remove the entire stem. Do not cut leaves, let them grow. Use *Seamate* every time you water your amaryllis.
- Watch for mealybugs and aphids on indoor plants. Use [Bonide Systemic House Plant Insect Control](#) to control these insects.
- Mites can be controlled by using Summit Year - Round spray oil for houseplants.

Potted primroses are being sold at this time. If you purchase one, be aware that this plant will most likely not be able to survive indoors.

Potted forced tulips and hyacinths bought now, are not worth planting after blooming. They will not re-bloom the following year when planted in the garden.

Vegetable Garden

To successfully grow tomatoes throughout the summer plant two separate crops one after the last frost date in the spring. The second planting should be in mid summer. This way you will be able to produce more tomatoes throughout the season. Make sure you feed the plants with Garden Trust after planting.

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