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Flower bulbs:

- To keep existing clumps of daffodils and newly planted bulbs strong enough to re-bloom year after year, you need to fertilize them with [Garden Trust](#), this month or when planting new bulbs. Do not put *Garden Trust* in the planting hole. Place the *Garden Trust* on top of the soil after planting, and sprinkle the *Garden Trust* in areas that you believe bulbs have been previously planted.
- Do not rely on *Bonemeal* to feed your spring blooming Dutch flower bulbs. Cool soil temperatures do not allow organic fertilizers to be effective. Spring blooming bulbs need lots of fertilizer when rooting in the late fall and early spring to prepare for the spring bloom and subsequent years of re-blooming. *Bonemeal* is better used in spring as a supplemental fertilizer for the summer blooming flowers bulbs, like gladiolus or dahlias.

Amaryllis:

Now is the time to shop for Dutch amaryllis. Look for bulbs that are three years old. The best blooming amaryllis to buy are Orange Sovereign, Prince Carnival, Apple Blossom, Christmas Gift, and Susan. When planting a Dutch amaryllis, use a pot approximately 2" larger than the bulb. Use 1/3 peat moss , 1/3 perlite, and 1/3 vermiculite as a potting soil and water with luke warm water one time after potting. Keep the potted amaryllis in a warm place. Light is not important right after potting, but heat is.

After the amaryllis' flower stem is 5" tall, resume watering the amaryllis. Every time you water the amaryllis, feed with [Seamate](#). Use an [electronic moisture meter](#) to determine when to water the amaryllis. If you do not use a moisture meter, you will probably over water the plant because the watering needs to be done based on the moisture near the roots. The moisture at the top of the soil is a poor indicator of the root moisture. When the flower stem is 5" tall, it needs to be moved to a cooler, well lit place to display and enjoy your amaryllis' bloom.

Dutch Amaryllis summered outside need to be cut back and the bulb needs to be dried out for 7 days in a warm (80 degree) place. Then after the 7 days moved to a place that is 45-50 degrees for 6 weeks before repotting. (when potting follow the above instructions on potting)

Lawn:

- Lawns that are neglected, but still look nice, are most likely crabgrass lawns. These lawns will die after the first frost.
- Lawns in cooler climates can be renovated by skipping applications of weed killers. Cut your lawn short. Rake out the weeds and crabgrass with a *cavex rake* or a *power rake*. Sow your grass seed directly in the remaining grass even with the weeds and crab grass left behind. With the cooler weather, the crab grass will die on its own. The weeds can be dealt with later.

- It is important to get your grass seed sown as soon as possible. Soil temperatures fall fast in our Northern Broadcast areas. Soon, some varieties of tall fescue and bluegrass seed will not be able to germinate in the cooler temperatures. An advantage of using Water saver R.T.F. tall fescue grass seed is that it will more readily germinate in lower soil temperatures than other varieties of tall fescue grass seed. Lightly water the newly seeded Water Saver RTF daily until it germinates. After germination water longer but less frequently. Apply kick start to the newly seeded areas 3-5 days after seeding.

Shrubs:

Hydrangeas that look pale and the leaves develop maroon brown spots and yellowing leaves are running out of food. Next season feed them twice with Garden Trust. Once in the early spring and once again after the final set of flowers. Overwatering of established re blooming Hydrangeas , compost rich soil with excessive nitrogen and too much shade can cause them not to bloom.

Perennials:

- Cut back perennials that are brown and withered. Divide overgrown perennials this fall, and feed them with [Garden Trust](#).
- Perennial beds with weeds need to be cleared and treated with Turf Trust Gallery before mulching *with Sweet Peet* to prevent winter and spring weeds (like henbit, chickweed, and spurge).

Holiday Plants:

- Keep Christmas and Thanksgiving cactus in a place where the night temperatures will be below 50 degrees for 5-6 days to trigger flower bud formation. After the 5-6 cool nights, you can place your holiday cactus in a place where you will later enjoy its flowers. The best place to grow an indoor holiday cactus is a place that has plenty of light and is somewhat cool. Water the cactus when it is almost dry, and use [Seamate](#) every time you water. Use a [Luster Leaf moisture meter](#) to check the moisture of the soil deeper down in the pot. The top of the soil will always feel dry. Holiday cactus can be easily overwatered.