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## House Plants

After the last frost for your area, houseplants can be moved outside to a partly shaded place. Gardenia, Hibiscus, and citrus plants should be in full sun.

### Plants

#### Plants:

Hardy Hibiscus that normally grow too tall, can be pinched before the asparagus looking spears are 8-10 inches tall. The pruned hardy Hibiscus, will be more bushy and shorter growing, without sacrificing flower production.

Feed the hardy Hibiscus with [Garden Trust](#). The best type of red hardy Hibiscus is Lord Baltimore.

#### Mosquito:

- To be free of mosquitos at your party or cookout, apply *Summit Mosquito and Gnat Barrier Spray* in the evening, the day before the event, when mosquitos are most active.
- For last minute mosquito solutions if [Summit Mosquito and Gnat Barrier Spray](#) was not applied, use [Bonide Mosquito Beater Area Mosquito Repellent](#). A 1.3 lbs container will treat up to 4,000 sq. ft..
- Mosquitos can be prevented from breeding on your property by using [Summit Mosquito Dunks](#). This is a biological mosquito control. The active ingredient "BT" will kill mosquitos before the mosquito is old enough to bite. Place the *Dunks* in standing water. i.e. flower pots, tree holes, bird baths, rain barrels, roof gutters, old tires, unused swimming pools, and animal watering troughs. [Summit Dunks](#) can also be used in fish habitats.
- Plant scented geraniums "citronella mosquito plant" in a garden or container near or on a patio or deck to help repel mosquitos. Touch the mosquito citronella plant, and the plant will release a strong, fresh, citronella scent.

#### Lawn:

- Nutsedge is a pale green, fast growing, grass like plant that grows upright and faster than bluegrass, tall fescue, or zoysia grass. Two days after mowing, nutsedge will be clearly visible. It will be several inches taller than the rest of the lawn. Spray seedlings of yellow nutsedge with [Sedge hammer +](#) as soon as you see nutsedge emerging in your lawn. On southern lawns, they may already be visible. In the mid-Atlantic they will be visible in early June. In Northern states they will be visible mid-summer.

#### Shrubs:

- When planting azaleas or rhododendron, do not use bagged top soil, compost, or planting soils. Only use *Canadian Sphagnum Peat Moss* as a soil amendment.
- Never plant trees or shrubs deeper than the depth that they were in, in its previous container.
- English boxwoods turning rusty brown or orange are likely planted in wet, poorly draining soil. They are likely suffering from nematodes or phytophthora root rot. To treat the boxwood, start by testing the pH of the soil with a [Luster Leaf Ph tester](#). The ideal pH is 6.7-7. When the pH is too low, use *Bonide Hydrate Lime*. If drainage/wet

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soil is a problem, then drill 18" deep holes with a 1.5" caliber earth auger. Make these holes 10" apart around the sick looking boxwood. Then fill these holes with [Diotomite](#). Feed the boxwood with *Plant Trust Tree and Shrub Fertilizer*, but if [Bonide Hydrated Lime](#) was used, then wait to feed the boxwood for two weeks or for two heavy rains after the *Bonide Hydrated Lime* application. Continue to monitor the pH every six months. Avoid planting boxwoods in poorly draining soils. If you have wet soil, plant other plants that will better tolerate the wet soil.

Vegetable garden:

- The best producing cucumbers are burpless cucumbers when grown on a trellis. Cucumbers are heavy feeders. Keep them well fed with [Garden Trust](#). Be sure to grow burpless cumpers in a sunny location where the soil drains well.
- Do not dust cucumbers with insecticide dust because it harms pollinators. Cucumber flowers need to be visited over 200 times by pollinators to be properly pollinated and develop into a healthy cucumber.
- To prevent weeds in your Vegetable and Flower beds use Preen for Vegetables and Sweet peat mulching.