

## Basic Gardening Tips - March

### March



- ❖ Think about which of your perennials you can divide and donate to friends or to our fund- raisers.
- ❖ Now is a great time to transplant houseplants to new containers. Houseplants will react to longer days and brighter light at this time by putting out new growth. The end of March is a good time to pinch them back to generate new growth and to thicken them. You can then begin fertilizing again with a dilute solution of soluble houseplant food.
- ❖ Mist or spray your houseplants to clean away the winter's dust, prevent spider mites and add a little humidity.
- ❖ As soon as the snow melts, get started on spring garden cleanup. Rake and dispose of leaves, pull obvious weeds, and cut back any perennials still standing, as well as ornamental grasses.
- ❖ Remove mulch from perennials and bulbs once they show signs of new growth.
- ❖ Plant pots, window boxes, and containers with cool-season flowers that can withstand frost and even snow. Pansies are a favorite.
- ❖ Clean out all your birdhouses now, so that they will be ready when the birds return.
- ❖ Repair any fencing, arbors, or trelliswork that is weak or has broken over the winter.
- ❖ Clean hand tools and power tools.
- ❖ Force some spring blooming trees and shrubs like forsythia, pussy willow, and quince.
- ❖ Plan your summer garden.

