



Basic Gardening Tips

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 and ornamental grasses still standing.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Plan your summer garden.
- ❖ Clean hand tools and power tools.
- ❖ Force some spring-blooming trees and shrubs like forsythia, pussy willow, and quince.

