



CENTRAL

LANDSCAPE & GARDEN SUPPLIES

Digger Dan's Monthly Garden Tips April 2009

Trees and Shrubs

- ✓ It's prime time for *planting* trees and shrubs. Mix in compost and slow release fertiliser pellets at planting time.
- ✓ *Transplant* evergreen shrubs or small trees.
- ✓ *Water* newly transplanted trees and shrubs regularly.
- ✓ Take semi hardwood tip *cuttings* of shrubs and perennials.
- ✓ *Trim* hedges.
- ✓ *Rake* up fallen leaves for the compost bin. If you don't have a compost heap, leaves can be stockpiled in bags or wire frames. They'll quickly break down into nutrient rich compost and make excellent mulch.
- ✓ In colder climates it's time to start thinking about *frost* protection.
Living Earth Compost is available in bulk and bags from Central Landscape & Garden Supplies.

Lawns

- ✓ *Sow* new lawns
- ✓ *Smooth* out humps and hollows in old lawns with topsoil or lawn mix and re-sow if need be. For deeper hollows peel back a section of turf and fill underneath.
- ✓ *Improve* water absorption on compact lawns by making a grid of holes with the garden fork.

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✓ **Apply** lawn fertiliser to support their autumn growth flush.

✓ **Don't** mow when the lawn is wet.

Screened topsoil & lawn mix in bulk and bags is available at all Central yards.

Two types of lawn fertiliser are recommended and available:

Nitra King:

- *Designed for winter use with a significant proportion of the nitrogen available in the nitrate form which means that it is in the plant available for when soil temperatures decrease below 8 degrees Celsius.*

Turf Gold:

- *The ultimate lawn fertiliser*
- *Long acting slow release fertiliser*
- *Certified non-burning*
- *Active for 10-12 weeks depending upon conditions*

The Flower Garden

✓ **Lift and divide** clumps of spring flowering perennials.

✓ **Plant spring** flowering bulbs. In warm climates place tulip bulbs in the fridge for six to eight weeks before planting.

✓ **Sow** directly into well drained soil: alyssum, aquilegia, calendula, cornflowers, linaria and sweetpeas.

✓ **Plant** autumn and winter flowering annuals: pansy, polyanthus, Iceland poppy, cineraria, calendula and primula.

✓ **Apply** slug bait.

The Kitchen Garden

✓ In mild climates **plant** lettuce, rocket, radish, silverbeet, spring onions, cabbage, beetroot, broccoli, celery, dwarf beans, parsnip, carrots and leeks.

✓ **Feed** winter vege plants.

✓ **Pick** or trim herbs. Freeze or dry for winter use.

✓ **Feed** citrus trees.

✓ **Sow a green crop** of mustard or lupin seed in areas not needed for planting.

✓ Divide and plant **rhubarb**.

Containers

✓ **Plant** spring flowering bulbs.

✓ **Plant** winter flowers such as pansies, baby cyclamen, stock, primula, and polyanthus.

✓ **Feed** with slow release fertiliser. Liquid feed flowering annuals to prolong flowering.

✓ **Trim** and feed topiaries.

✓ **Slow down** watering of indoor plants and succulents.

"DOWN TO EARTH SERVICE"

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