



CENTRAL

LANDSCAPE & GARDEN SUPPLIES

Digger Dan's Monthly Garden Tips June 2009

Trees and Shrubs

- ✓ June is a good time for planting and transplanting trees and shrubs, but avoid too much digging when the soil is heavy.
- ✓ Prepare planting holes for large trees and shrubs, adding plenty of compost.
- ✓ Spray deciduous trees and shrubs with Super Copper and spraying oil to control fungal diseases, scale and other hibernating insects.
- ✓ Spray with lime sulphur to control scale, insects and lichen, but do not mix this with other sprays.
- ✓ Plant hedges, trees and shrubs. See *"Guide to Planting Trees"* below.
- ✓ Prune hydrangeas back to lowest pair of fat flower buds, very old bushes may be trimmed to ground level.
- ✓ Select new camellias for your garden while they are in flower.
- ✓ Plant new roses. If you buy bare root roses, carefully remove the packaging, trim any damaged roots, then soak in a bucket of water while you prepare the ground. Choose a sunny location with good air flow. Avoid soil where roses have grown previously. See *"Winter Rose Care"* on our website.
- ✓ Rake up leaves and compost for spring use.
Compost is available in bulk and bags from Central Landscape & Garden Supplies.

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The Edible Garden

- ✓ Prune apple and pear trees and spray with Super Copper and Spraying Oil.
- ✓ Plant strawberry plants, citrus and deciduous fruit trees.
- ✓ Plant early potatoes in warm areas
- ✓ Plant garlic and shallots on the shortest day to harvest on the longest day.
- ✓ Sow or plant in warm climates: spinach, silverbeet, peas, spring onions, and broad beans.
- ✓ Apply slug and snail bait.

Containers

- ✓ Plant pots of instant colour for the deck or patio with winter flowering annuals such as pansies and polyanthus.
- ✓ Pot up tulip and hyacinth bulbs.
- ✓ Move frost tender plants to a sheltered spot.
- ✓ Feed polyanthus' more prolific, larger blooms.
- ✓ Water indoor plants sparingly – only when the top 3-4cm of soil dries out.

Guide to Planting Trees

- ✓ Before planting, water the potting mix thoroughly or immerse in a bucket of water until thoroughly saturated.
- ✓ Prepare the soil well, digging in lots of compost. Aim for a generous volume of crumbly, freshly dug, humus enriched soil around the tree roots. Dig a hole at least as twice as wide and one and a half times the depth of the size of the plant's container. Back fill to the depth of the container, firming down gently.
- ✓ Fertiliser is an optional extra but will generally give faster, healthier results. Exact quantities depend on what you are planting and the state of your soil. Slow release fertiliser is best.
- ✓ If the plant has been in its container too long, the roots may be tightly packed and spiraling around in the shape of the pot ("root-bound"). If so, gently loosen and lightly prune the roots, removing damaged parts with a clean cut.
- ✓ Generally the tree should be positioned in its hole at the same level as it was in its pot. (Grafted plants like roses or citrus trees need to be placed so that the graft is above the soil.)
- ✓ Position stakes before backfilling with soil. This saves the roots from being damaged by driving stakes in later. Staking is important for young trees as wind movement prevents roots from becoming established properly. Space two or three stakes evenly around the tree. Tie with flexible ties.
- ✓ Firm the soil around the root ball gently with your hand or foot as you go.
- ✓ Water thoroughly to make sure the soil is snugly in contact with the roots.
- ✓ Finish with layer of organic mulch, keeping it clear of the trunk.

Suggested Products: Compost, Premium Mulch, Bark Mulch, Reharvest Coloured Mulch, Garden Mix, Potting Mix – all available from Central Landscape & Garden Supplies yards in bulk and bags – pick up or delivery – free loan trailers.

"DOWN TO EARTH SERVICE"

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