

What to do in your March garden:

PICK up all fallen camellias to prevent petal blight on the plant. Remember that camellia bushes grow into camellia trees so plant in an appropriate location.

PLANT asparagus crowns as soon as the soil is dry enough to work.

SOW Irish potatoes, English peas, radishes, turnips, kale and carrots any time this month.

ATTRACT Monarch butterflies to your garden by planting milkweed. A caterpillar increases its body mass 2,000 times as it nibbles on milkweed.

ADD the perennial vegetable rhubarb to your potager along with strawberries. They'll be ready to harvest at the same time, just right for pies, jams, sauces and other treats.

ESPALIER apples, kiwis and grapes for easier picking as well as space saving.

THICKEN and reseed lawns in thin spots. Clover is an excellent option if you are seeking something other than grass.

FERTILIZE lawns with an organic feed high in nitrogen. All plants can use a boost of nitrogen.

TIME for a tetanus shot if you haven't had one in 10 years. Tetanus does not occur just from rusty nails. You can get it from digging in the dirt.

REPEL insects naturally with swaths of pennyroyal, nasturtium, calendula and marigold.



A landscape of blooming crabapples and periwinkle, and blue rosemary.

NET plants, shrubs and trees that you don't want nibbled by birds, deer, rabbits and other foragers.

DIVIDE agapanthus, daylilies and iris while they are still semi-dormant.

COMPOST all organic matter to add to your garden. This includes newspaper, shredded cardboard, food scraps (except meat), eggshells, tea leaves and coffee grinds.

BUILD hugels now while the soil is still easy to dig to help with moisture retention for the summer months.

PLAN your vegetable garden. Check the soil, turn over the cover crops, determine the sunlight conditions, choose your seeds, and write a list of plants you wish to purchase to keep you eating fresh all season.

PLANT culinary herbs including cilantro, chives, dill, mint, parsley, rosemary and thyme to spice up your meals all season.

PREPARE for Easter celebrations with arrangements of tulips, hyacinths, lilies and colorful annuals.

START seeds of eggplants, tomatoes and peppers indoors to get a head start on your summer barbecues.

WEED! After all the rainfall, weeds are proliferating. Start pulling them up or turning them under before seedpods set.

EXHALE! Winter is almost over and the sunny, warm, longer days of March are here. Getting ready to balance eggs on end on the vernal equinox ... or at least crack a couple of fresh ones for breakfast.



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