

APRIL 2023 HORTICULTURE REPORT

- Stay ahead of the weeding. (I have never seen so much chickweed!!!!) But leave your dandelions for the bees.
- In a sunny spot (at least 6 hours of sun) plant perennial herbs such as sage and thyme.
- I've planted my peas and salad greens in the raised beds this past week. Plant other salad crops now like chard, radishes, carrots etc.
- Fix that bare spot in the lawn; rake the soil loose and put a GOOD quality seed down. (Poor quality seed will have less than 70% germination rate. It will also contain weed seed and other junk.) Cover seeds with the smallest amount of fine soil and tamp it slightly. Water daily. True, you don't need to cover it but I have lost good grass seeds to ants carrying them off and to birds eating it!)
- Plant roses now. Also, if it has been a month since you "Rose Toned" your roses, time to do it again. If you are shopping for roses (I lost 2 this winter.) I love Roseland in N. Dartmouth. They have the most disease resistant roses for New England.
- Prune roses now.
- Your garden/lawn needs an inch of rain a week so if you don't have a rain gauge, get one. If you have had a quarter inch of rain in the garden, then just add only 3/4 inch of water from your sprinkler.
- I am headed out now to Bulb Tone my tulips and hyacinths etc. I find that they return vigorously the next year if they get the nutrients they need.
- If you have seedlings growing, start to harden them off by setting them outside during the day.
- Set out your peony supports now.
- In another 2 weeks you can start planting gladiolus bulbs .Gladiolus need fertilizer so put some Ozmacote in with them.
- Plant tender summer bulbs like caladium and Dahlias in pots in the house. This will give them a head start but the ground will not be warm enough for them for at least another month.
- I put an ant cup under the cupboard door to stop the ant invasion before it starts. But then, there are SO many ants here. You may be ant free and can ignore this.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol G