

# APRIL'S ORGANIC PLANNING GUIDE

*This is a Great Time to Plant!*

## PLANT:

- **Annuals** – Begonia, impatiens, petunia, alyssum, osteospermum, marigold, geranium, pentas, zinnias, etc.
- **Perennials** – Verbena, lantana, blackfoot daisy, coreopsis, salvia, daylily, gaillardia, sedum, coral bells, etc.
- **Roses** - Earthkind Roses are heat/drought tolerant & resistant to insects/disease...very low maintenance!
- **Vegetables and herbs** - Tomatoes, squash, peppers, cucumbers, beans, eggplant, okra, etc.
- **Fruit trees, pecans, grapes and berry plants.**
- **Trees, shrubs, vines, ornamental grasses, groundcovers.**
- **Anything with roots**, use Covington's Soil Builder. Contains compost, expanded shale (holds 38% of its weight in water) & greensand to break up clay, add nutrients, retain moisture & revitalize microbial activity.

## PRUNE:

- **Groundcovers: Asian jasmine, mondgrass, and liriop**e to remove old growth.
- **Trees** to remove dead/damaged growth, or to raise canopy so more sunlight reaches grass & landscape. Wait for mid to late summer to prune Red Oaks or Live Oaks. If you must prune your oaks now, use pruning paint on cuts to prevent spread of oak wilt.
- **Shrubs** that require re-shaping. Prune **Spring flowering shrubs and vines after they have finished blooming** (Indian hawthorne, azalea, viburnum, forsythia, quince, wisteria, Carolina Jessamine, etc.)
- Begin mowing **lawn** regularly at recommended height. (1½" for Bermuda and 2-2 ½" for St. Augustine).

## FERTILIZE:

- Newly planted trees and shrubs with Nature's Guide Root Stimulator every 2-3 weeks to help prevent transplant shock, increase beneficial microorganisms, and encourage root development.
- Trees, shrubs, flowers, perennials, use Nature's Guide Natural Blooms or Happy Frog Rose Food.
- Use Nature's Guide Corn Gluten Meal 9-0-0 to feed turf and prevent weeds this spring. Corn Gluten Meal is great in vegetable gardens as well to prevent weeds. Also, spread Dry Molasses to enhance weed control.
- Plants that aren't thriving with Nature's Guide Tree Therapy w/corn meal, molasses, greensand, etc.
- Bermuda and St. Augustine with Nature's Guide 4-3-2 Poultry Based Formula.
- Add Texas Greensand for deep greening in lawns, trees and landscape plants.

## BE ON WATCH:

- For bugs & fungus use ferti.lome Triple Action which contains Neem Oil, an all-purpose organic remedy. Use Hi-Yield Dormant Oil on plants susceptible to scale (holly, euonymus, crape myrtle, shade/fruit trees)
- Use Horticultural Corn Meal on Bermuda and St. Augustine grass for disease control.
- Use Sluggo Plus with Spinosad to control slugs, snails & pillbugs on flowers and foliage.
- Apply Nature's Guide Garrett Juice once a month to your landscape to increase beneficial microorganisms in the soil and to reduce the need for water.
- Spot treat grassy and broadleaf weeds with Nature's Guide 20% Vinegar. Add 2 oz of Orange Oil per gallon to enhance the kill on weeds and grasses.
- Spray ferti.lome Fruit Tree Spray for insect problems on fruit trees.
- Top dress landscape and flower beds with at least a 2 inch layer of **mulch** to help retain moisture.

## WATER:

- Container plants, flower beds, shrubs & trees as needed to keep healthy and reduce winter damage.
- Trees installed for less than two years must have special care to ensure a strong and healthy root system. See our Plant Article on Tree Care for the First Two Years on our website or come by and pick one up.

*We're open 7 days a week to serve you!*

*Covington's can delivery and plant your new trees for you...let us know if you want details.*

*This is a great time to plan changes to your landscape! For a professional landscape design and installation, call our Landscape Services team at (972) 475-5888 Ext. 5.*