

Spring Gardens



With lengthening days and a rise in temperature your garden will soon start to shrug off winter. If you're a keen gardener I am sure you've already been pottering and have even got started on your plans for the year ahead.

If the weather allows, clear and tidy your flower beds but do avoid treading on water-logged lawns and borders. Complete any spring pruning and dig or hoe over borders that don't have shoots pushing their way through or delicate roots hiding underneath.

If you have a coldframe or greenhouse, give it a good clean out, remove anything that provides somewhere for pests to hide, wash down windows, shelves and staging and make sure there are no old leaves and plant material on the floor.

If you haven't already started any seedlings you can do so in a greenhouse, coldframe or sunny window sill.

Let the weather guide you and keep an eye on the forecast, moving or covering pot plants if needed and keeping the greenhouse closed on colder days.

Buddleia, Hydrangea & Fuschia welcome a prune and if you have roses but are not sure how to prune simply cut them back to half their height in April and remove any dead wood completely.

For gardening tips, seeds and plug-plants:
www.suttons.co.uk
www.thompson-morgan.com
www.dobbies.co.uk
www.jparkers.co.uk
www.notcutts.co.uk

If your mower is adjustable, set it to the highest setting and mow on a dry day. If the lawn is dry enough, now is a good time to rake out moss. Your lawn will look messy for a few weeks afterwards, but will be much greener and stronger over the summer without it.

You can also give your lawn a spring feed either from a ready mixed box or by scattering sieved compost over the lawn and brushing it in. For a smart finish, edge your lawn along paths and borders.

Plant out summer flowering bulbs and order any plug plants and seeds that you fancy for the coming summer and deadhead and tie back any finished spring bulbs. Don't forget to water your pots if the weather is dry.

