

# Happy Spring Planting!



## April 2018 Garden Planner

### PLANT:



• **Summer veggie** offerings are at their peak this month. We stock a staggering number of tomato varieties with plenty of heirlooms and heirloom offspring in the mix. See our **Tomato List and Suggestions** on our website, [www.Yamagamis.com](http://www.Yamagamis.com). We also offer as many organically grown varieties as we can.

• You can still plant **seed potatoes** for the joy of home-grown mashies. Follow our **FREE Potato Planting Guide** for best results. You can even grow them in containers!

• **Herbs** are the perfect complement to your vegetable garden. Herbs can turn a vegetable garden into a cook's theme garden. Herbs also attract beneficial insects to your vegetable garden, as well as provide edible flowers or seeds. If space is an issue, grow herbs in containers.

• Choose the right **Avocado** tree for your garden. Check out our **Avocado Guide** (on our website) for info on the different varieties. Follow our **Citrus and Avocado Planting Guide** for guaranteed success.

• It's time to plant **Citrus trees**. We primarily offer dwarf and semi-dwarf trees for ease of picking and pruning without ladders. We stock several exotic varieties like Yuzu Lime, Thai Lime Leaf, and Australian Finger Lime.

• Raised beds give you an **instant garden**. Fill with **G & B Raised Bed And Potting Mix** and you're ready to grow!

• **California native plants, Aus-**

**tralian plants** and other water-wise **plants** transplant most easily this month.

• **Container gardens** are a great way to add edibles to a small garden space. We offer a wide selection of containers from large to small. Try **Smart Pots** for lightweight, reusable containers that allow roots to thrive. Use **G & B Potting Soil** for excellent results.

• Finish planting **summer-blooming bulbs** like Dahlias and Gladiolas. Hurry in to pick some up before they are all gone. Follow our **FREE Spring Bulb Planting Guide** for success!

### FERTILIZE:

• **Rain** leaches nutrients from soil. Replenish your soil by feeding all your established **landscape plants** with **Eden Valley Paradise**, the NEW all-purpose fertilizer from **G & B**. It's micro-pelletized and virtually dust-free!

• Continue to care for **spring-blooming bulbs** by removing spent flowers and fertilizing with **Espoma Bulb-Tone**. Keep the leaves healthy and green after bloom as long as possible to store energy for next year's bloom. Do not cut off green leaves; wait till they have died back on their own before removing.

• Acid-lovers (Camellias, Azaleas, Gardenias) enjoy **G & B Rhododendron, Azalea and Camellia Fertilizer** that also helps acidify the soil.

• **Roses** need feeding as they push their new growth and start budding. If you didn't do it yet, here's Yamagami's spring recommendation: Use 2 cups **AlfaGrow** and 1 1/3 cup **G & B Rose Fertilizer** per plant. Water thoroughly after application.



• Time to apply **G & B Fruit Tree Fertilizer** to all your fruit trees including citrus and avocados. They need this feeding to support their new growth and fruit.

• Apply **G & B Lawn Fertilizer** for an organic boost. It feeds the soil as well as the lawn. It contains beneficial soil microbes which help your lawn process fertilizer and water much more efficiently. It greens without increasing the lawn's watering and mowing needs.

### PRUNE:

• To maintain size and shape of **spring-flowering shrubs, vines, and trees**, prune after they finish blooming. You can remove up to 35% of the growth. Continue to deadhead any faded Rhododendrons blossoms. If you are unsure of how to do this, ask a Nursery Pro to demonstrate.

• If your **Japanese Maple** has branches that did not leaf out, cut them off. Look at the cross section for dark staining and look at the trunk for dark streaking. If you see them, it's possible your tree is showing damage from **Verticillium Wilt**. Treat with Phyton 27 and fertilize. If the dead twigs are primarily at the top, it may just be drought damage. Keep the tree vigorous with regular fertilizing and water to help it outgrow any damage.



Correct



Incorrect

• To shape and control size of **hedges, trim now** as they put on their spring burst of growth. Remember to keep the top narrower than the base so the top doesn't shade the lower half of the hedge.

• If your **Citrus tree** is out of shape, now is the time to prune and thin it. Be on the lookout for "water sprouts"

especially on dwarf citrus. These are unusually fast-growing stems that have visibly larger leaves and large thorns. Remove water sprouts back to their base. They will not fruit, but will grow so vigorously that they will take over the tree.

- Pinch the tips on **Fuchsias** to encourage bushiness. Hanging baskets can be pruned back to the edge of the container.



- If you have not already done so, remove **winter damaged or dead wood** on your trees, vines and shrubs. Cut back frosted growth, starting at the outer tips until you encounter green wood. Dead branches should be pruned to just above any new growth.

### PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE:

- **Fireblight** affects apples, pears and quince. It shows up in late spring or early summer as blackening of small branches starting at old flowers and heading down to major branches or the trunk. Spray **Monterey LiquiCop** during the blooming season to prevent infection.
- Save your lawn from **grubs** and, even more importantly, from marauding raccoons. They come in fall to rip up your lawn at night looking for tasty grubs. We offer **beneficial nematodes** as an organic control. Repeat application in August. Use good bugs to get the bad ones! We also offer Safer Grub Killer using neem oil as another natural, organic control.
- **Citrus Leaf Miner** is a widespread pest. Symptoms are curled new growth and white trails in the leaves. If you had leafminers last year, chances are good you will again this year. Place **ISCAlure Citrus Leafminer traps** in your trees

now. Monitoring the traps will let you know when the pests are back. If your trap starts to fill, spray with OMRI approved **Monterey Garden Insect Spray**. It will take 3 applications, 10 days apart, to knock them out. Spray at dusk so as not to spray your bees.

- **Brown Rot** can be a problem for apricots and peaches especially if it rains while fruit is forming. Prevent it by spraying with **Spectracide Immunox** during the bloom season. It shows up as a brown, sometimes fuzzy, rotten spot on the fruit. Providing good air circulation by thinning the branches and the fruit will also help prevent it. Heavy rains during the bloom season will spread the infection and can ruin the entire crop.
- If you found maggots in your cherries, plums or berries last year, you'll need to spray with OMRI approved **Monterey Garden Insect Spray** as fruit starts to ripen. If you have these fruit but didn't see this pest last year, set out **ISCA Ball Traps**, and spray if spotted wing fruit flies appear. You will need to spray right away to save your fruit. **Treatment of Olive Fly is the same.**

### GARDEN MAINTENANCE:

- If your peaches and nectarines have **Peach Leaf Curl**, spray with **Growmore Seaweed Extract** weekly until new growth comes in clean. The seaweed enables peach leaves to resist infection. Pick off and throw away infected leaves before spraying.
- **Stake or cage** tomatoes before they get too big to handle. We have a great selection of cages in stock.
- Start on **Bermuda Grass** control in your lawn by spraying **Monterey Turflon Ester** when the first flower appears. Repeat sprays as directed. Add **Monterey Nature's Own Spray**

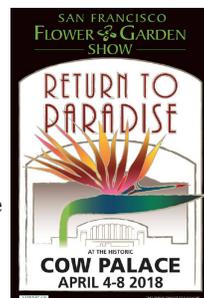


**Helper** to your spray solution for better sticking and efficacy.

- **Be on the lookout** for insect pests on the new, lush spring growth of your plants. Bring bagged samples of any pests to the Info Center for one of our experienced staff to diagnose.
- Maintain the height of your **lawn** at 2 1/2 to 3 inches, about 1/2 inch higher than normal. **Keeping it a little higher reduces its water use.** Mow regularly so that you are removing only about 1/2" every time. Water your lawn deeply and less often to help it withstand summer heat to come.
- Control **Powdery Mildew** on **grapes** by dusting with **Bonide Sulfur Dust** when new shoots are 6"- 18" long. Try putting the sulfur in an old sock and shaking it over the plants and undersides of leaves when plants are damp.

### COMING EVENTS:

- **San Francisco Flower & Garden Show April 4th - 8th.** Bring your ticket back after the show and receive \$10 off any \$40 or larger purchase!
- **Sunday, May 13th is Mother's Day!** Say it with flowers! Yamagami's has so many choices! Give her what she may really want - time strolling our gardens with you. Indulge her!



- **Saturday and Sunday, June 1st and 2nd Chrysanthemum Starter**



**Plant Sale 11 AM to 3 PM!** The sale is a benefit for the Bay Area Chrysanthemum Society. Here's your chance to acquire some exciting varieties!