

Timely tips for spring



gwinnettcounty
**Cooperative Extension
Education Resource**

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- Apply fertilizer to ornamentals now. Remember that mature trees and shrubs usually do not require supplemental fertilizer on a continuing basis
- Squash, tomatoes, peppers, and other warm season vegetables can be planted after all danger of frost. This is usually after April 15
- Cut flower stalks back to the ground on daffodils, hyacinths, and other spring flowering bulbs as the flowers fade. Do not cut the foliage until it dies naturally. The leaves are necessary to produce strong bulbs capable of flowering the following year
- Lengthening the time between waterings combined with deep, heavy watering encourages root growth while reducing top growth in lawns. This increases the root-to-shoot ratio and produces plants that are more resistant to wilting when exposed to infrequent watering
- Lightly side dress perennials, including spring bulbs, with fertilizer such as 5-10-10 or 10-10-10, being careful to avoid the center or crown of the plant
- Birds have five basic needs: food, water, shelter from hot and cold weather, nesting sites, and protection from predators. Supply these and you will have many more birds around your home to entertain you and control insect pests
- Sharpen or replace your mower blade. Using a dull blade will shred the edges of grass blades causing a white appearance and making the grass more susceptible to diseases and dry conditions