



RETURN IN KIND

To help keep tools in good condition and make them available for others to use, always return/put away tools that you borrow. If you borrow tools from the shared garden center barns—return them to the barn when you are done. Garden Center tools left in individual locked plots may result in lock removal to unreturned tools housed within.

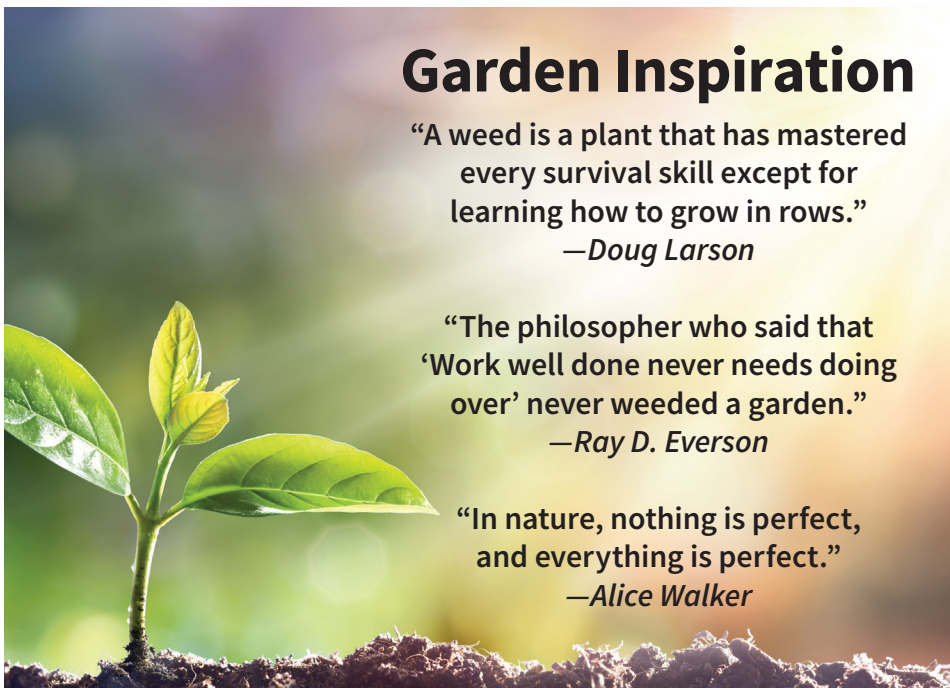


Garden Inspiration

“A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows.”
—Doug Larson

“The philosopher who said that ‘Work well done never needs doing over’ never weeded a garden.”
—Ray D. Everson

“In nature, nothing is perfect, and everything is perfect.”
—Alice Walker



SEASONAL PLANTING GUIDE

FEBRUARY

- **Plant in the ground:** Lettuce (and other salad greens), carrots, beets, parsnips, radishes, spinach, purple beans

- **Plant in containers:** Early tomatoes, basil, cucumbers, summer squash

MARCH

- **Plant in the ground:** Purple beans, lettuce, radishes, purple beans, beets, radishes, spinach, set out plants of basil, early tomatoes, later in the month, sow early sweet corn

- **Plant in containers:** Tomatoes, basil, peppers, eggplant, cucumbers, melons, all squash

WINTER GARDENING TIPS

- Remove old leaves and debris from all beds.
- Prune roses and fruit trees such as apple, apricot and cherry. Cut off dead wood, branches that cross and thin, old and spindly wood to encourage as much fruit growth as possible.
- Apply a layer of mulch around plants, leaving a clearance of several inches between mulch and the plant stems or trunks of the trees. Ideally, apply mulch to your garden twice a year. Mulch retains soil moisture, regulates soil temperature, suppresses weeds and contributes to soil replenishment and natural soil health. For these reasons, it's essential to apply mulch in colder months.
- Schedule irrigation at a time that discourages fungal growth. Watering early in the morning means that fungus that prefer a dark, wet environment won't have the ability grow. Also remember to stop irrigation during a storm.

GARDENING HACKS

If you have a hard time starting seeds or cuttings, try mini-greenhouses made from soda containers. Cut the bottom off of 2-liter soda bottles and remove the labels. Each seed gets its own micro-greenhouse! Remove the greenhouses once the seeds have germinated and cuttings are rooted.

Visit bit.ly/47LbbCx for mini-greenhouse ideas.



A Note From Tom McCray

All trash must be placed in appropriate bins—without exception. During our walkthroughs, staff still see

landfill items in the green waste bin and vice versa. CR&R, our trash hauler, will not pick up bins filled with the wrong items so, please, take the time to walk those items to the bin where they belong.

I wish to thank gardeners who have taken the time to get their garden plots in good shape as we have very few on our watch list. For those that still need to do some work, we ask that you please spend time to get them in an acceptable condition.



STAFF PROJECT UPDATES

Common area mulching is underway to help reduce path weeds. Please help by doing your part to keep the pathways near your plots as weed free as possible.

Repainting of the gardening tools is also underway. Many thanks to gardeners who are helping with this effort.