

February 2009

- Have soil test performed on garden plot to determine nutrient needs. Ask your local Extension office for a list of testing laboratories or view EM 8677 online.
- *Western Oregon*: Plant seed flats of cole crops (cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, Brussels sprouts).
- *Central/eastern Oregon*: Plant asparagus if the ground is warm enough.
- Tune up lawnmower and garden equipment before the busy season begins.
- Use delayed-dormant sprays of lime sulfur for fruit and deciduous trees and shrubs.
- Prune and train grapes; make cuttings.
- Prune roses in *western Oregon*; wait until May in high elevations of eastern and *central Oregon*.
- Monitor landscape plants for problems. Do not treat unless a problem is identified.
- *Central Oregon*: Gather branches of quince, forsythia, and flowering cherries; bring inside to force early bloom.
- *Western Oregon*: Elm leaf beetles and box-elder bugs emerging from hibernation may be seen indoors. They are not harmful but can be a nuisance.
- Make a cold frame or hotbed to start early vegetables or flowers.
- Plant onions outdoors in *western Oregon* as soon as the soil is dry enough to till.
- Check junipers and cotoneaster for webworm activity. Treat if necessary.
- Plant windowsill container gardens of carrots, lettuce, or parsley.
- Plan to add herbaceous perennial flowers to your flowering landscape this spring: astilbe, candytuft, peony, anemone.
- Make plans for an herb bed, for cooking and for interest in the landscape: parsley, sage, chives, lavender; plant next month.
- If weather permits and the soil is dry enough, spade or till garden areas for planting later.
- Spade or plow down cover crops or other organic matter.
- Use a soil thermometer to help you know when to plant vegetable and flower seeds.
- Good time to plant fruit trees and deciduous shrubs.
- *Western Oregon*: Good time to plant new roses.
- Prune deciduous summer-blooming shrubs and trees.
- Prune clematis, Virginia creeper, and other vining ornamentals.
- Pasteurize soil for starting seedlings in pots or flats.
- Fertilize rhubarb with manure or a complete fertilizer.
- Prune and trellis trailing berries and caneberries.
- *Western Oregon*: Fertilize lawns.
- Prune fruit trees and blueberries.
- Repair winter damage to trees and shrubs.
- Control moles and gophers with traps.