

## The Garden in March.....To Do List

Time to get organized...start by tidying the shed and checking your tools, make sure they are clean and sharp!

- \*prune clematis....late flowering varieties to about 24"from ground
- \*prune wisteria to 2 lateral buds , train onto trellis
- \* remove dead flower heads of hydrangeas and cut out deadwood and prune to 2 strong 'opposite' buds
- \* fruit trees should have been sprayed with dormant oil - lime/sulphur
- \* if not done yet, start sweet peas seeds and other annuals ready for planting in May
- \* WEED
- \* Roses ! When you see Forsythia blooming in your garden or area it is your cue to prune roses. Start by cutting away the dead wood, then any crossing branches or weak stems. Cut remaining branches back to a strong outward facing bud. The idea is to keep the center of the rose bush clear to provide good airflow
- \* Set out Begonias in boxes of compost... when they have sprouted you can plant them in separate pots
- It is time to tidy the herbaceous border ...clean off old dead growth from plants, lift, divide and replant those that have become large, overgrown or dead in the centre
- Enrich the soil with compost
- Cut back late flowering shrubs, those that blossom on new growth
- Direct sow hardy annual seeds where they are to flower
- Lift and split snowdrops and aconite , share with friends or replant throughout your garden.
- Sow veggie seeds ....parsnips, spinach, broad beans, carrots, turnip, beets, broccoli can be planted outdoors ....tomatoes can be started under glass!
- Pull mulch away from plants to let the soil warm up
- Prune evergreen shrubs before new growth starts
- Moss ! love it and leave it or hate it and start the battle to remove it from your lawn. Lawns should be raked to remove dead grass and aerated.
- Spring clean your house plants ...large leaved plants can be dusted and wiped. Repot any plants overgrown or root bound to next size pot.
- Did I mention weeding .....this task never ends!
- Remember the plant club garden sale is coming in April...pot up any plants you may wish to share!