

# *“Solutions for a happier lawn and garden”*



## **TIP TOE THROUGH THE TULIPS (Fall Bulb Planting & Care)**

Tip toe through the Tulips, dilly-dally in the Daffodils, fraternize with the Fritillarias, take a hiatus in the hyacinths, snooze in the snowdrops, cruise through the crocus, be at peace in the Alliums...hm-mm...I know I forgot one...oh, and idle in the Iris. Doesn't all of that sound so nice and relaxing?! A little corny, I know, but none-the-less, relaxing. In the spring, this could be you but only if you do some work now. Yes folks, you need to get your hands a little dirty this fall for lots of enjoyment this spring.

We have a bevy of beautiful bulb choices and we are so close to perfect bulb planting weather. Typically when night time temperatures dip down consistently between 40 and 50 degrees, it is bulb planting time. Let's get going!

- \*Pick out your favorite bulbs. One of each, right?! It is just so hard to choose.
- \*It is still a little warm so tuck your bulbs into the refrigerator for a couple of weeks. Yes folks, the refrigerator. Not right next to the fruit. Fruit releases rotting gasses. Ew. The cold refrigerator will help the bulbs harden off and withstand winter better.
- \*When night temperatures dip into the 40's now it's time to plant. Yay!
- \*Get a good bag of soil like Van Wilgen's Premium Planting Mix or some compost. Most bulbs like the soil rich. Alliums might be the exception.
- \*Mix Bulb-Tone or Bone Meal into each planting hole. Use an inorganic fertilizer like Van Wilgen's Slow Release, if animals digging up your bulbs is an issue.
- \*Dig a hole that is 3X's deeper than the height of the bulb. i.e. If bulb is 2 inches high, dig a hole that is 6 inches deep. This will ensure that the soil is loose enough for healthy root development.
- \*Plant bulbs 2X's deeper than the height of the bulb. i.e. If the bulb is 2 inches high, plant it 4 inches deep.
- \*If squirrels, voles, and chipmunks are an issue, add some deterrents. Perma-Till/Volebloc is a course material that permanently discourages these critters. I Must Garden's Mole & Vole Repellent is really helpful mixed into the soil with the bulbs.
- \*Water. One time a week is usually sufficient for bulbs.
- \*Take a winter's nap.
- \*Be patient.

In the spring you will be excited to see the beautiful metamorphosis of your bulbs into beautiful flowers! For now, happy fall planting.

Come see us at Van Wilgen's. We would love to help!

Thanks a bunch...Stacey





*Van Wilgen's*

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