

HOE, HOE, HOE!

Nope! It's not Christmas but Garden Greeting time! Say hello to your garden! Its appearance may look a bit shabby so a few steps this month will save time.

Consider what you would like to plant this year and plan what you would like in the old beds and new if you are adding to your landscape. Magazines and the internet can entice you with some wonderful ideas! Except for beds with perennials, here are the basics: pull any weeds in the area(s) to garden, till the soil 8-12", then work some fertilizer and compost or peat moss into it.

Now is the time to start collecting used CDs, shiny beads, and aluminum pie tins to use for "scarecrows" in your garden, especially when the seeds are just sprouting and when plants come into bloom. Being creative with these items make for a very attractive—and effective—scarecrow! Punching designs in the pie tins is twofold: it lets the air flow through a bit and your design can be another flower!

Don't forget to clean your other yard decorations, too! Once the frost has cleared in May, you'll be ready to pop in your seedlings and plants!

April prepares her green traffic light and the world thinks Go.

- Christopher Morley

*Science has never drummed up quite as effective a tranquilizing agent
as a sunny spring day.*

- W. Earl Hall

*The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun,
heart with nature. To nurture a garden
is to feed not just on the body, but the soul.*

- Alfred Austin

*Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardener
seems to be only one of the instruments, not the composer.*

- Geoffrey B. Charlesworth

*I love spring anywhere,
but if I could choose I would always greet it in a garden.*

- Ruth S