



Clematis

The name March comes from ancient Rome, when March was the first month of the year (springtime) and named after the Roman god of war when campaigns began.

The freeze we experienced this year was the coldest in the last 12 years. March is typically when we see the first real signs of spring in North Texas.

Our last "official" freeze date is March 18th. So use caution planting before this date as an unexpected freeze may kill your new plantings if not protected.

Monthly - To do's

- *Time to check and see what plants did not survive the extended deep freeze we experienced in late 2009 and the start of 2010. Many zone 8 plants may not have survived the unusually cold spells.*
- *Check your sprinkler system to make sure it works properly and has not suffered any freeze damage.*
- *Indoor plants can be moved outside, but watch out for a freeze or wait until next month.*
- *As soon as the soil warms the grass will start to grow and will need an application of fertilizer. Pre-emergent should have been applied in the fall and the spring. Select a high nitrogen*

Planting or re-planting your landscape

"In life, as in a garden, you reap what you sow."

Planting balled and burlap or container

When you have the choice container is a better way to go as the roots are fully intact and the plant does not suffer the shock of root loss during digging. Still properly planted balled and burlap are a good investment and likely less expensive than container grown.

Bare Root plantings

Are the least expensive plantings with the greatest risk of loss. Should only be considered in the dormant months for success.

Zone map

Most of Collin county is in temperature zone 7 with the lower parts of the county in zone 8. The lower the number the lower the minimum low temperature the area is likely to receive. Thus **zone 7** minimum temperatures are 0° to 10° F and **zone 8** is 10° to 20° F. Plants that are hardy in zone 9 might not survive a winter in zone 7 or 8.

Soil preparation

You need to amend the soil. Adding composted matter helps loosen our heavy clay soil, helps drainage and water penetration, retains moisture and reduces alkalinity.

Happy St. Patrick's Day
 1st 3 reply's receive a free irrigation inspection.
 (residential customers only)

Reply to this Email
 flyer to enter a drawing for a free lawn treatment Drawing 3/31/10
Office@longhorn.ws

FACT: Garden Therapy, also known as Horticultural Therapy, has been implemented in hospitals, schools and communities. The American Horticultural Therapy Association (AHTA) defines it as "a discipline that uses plants, gardening activities, and the natural world as vehicles for professionally conducted programs in therapy and rehabilitation. The therapeutic use of plants is an ancient concept, though horticultural therapy as a profession was not established until 1973.