



## **GARDENING HINTS FROM THE PRO**

*Sherri Harrah from Plants for All Seasons on SH 249*

### **April To-Do List**

In the veggie garden: It's time to plant beans, cantaloupe, corn, cucumber, eggplant, Honey dew, okra, peppers, Summer squash, tomatillo, watermelon, basil, catmint, chives, cilantro, dill, fennel, lemongrass, mint, nasturtium, oregano, parsley, rosemary, sage, and thyme. All of these can be planted from seed, or transplants purchased from the nursery.

In the flowerbeds: It's time to plant your warm weather flowers that will last all summer. The nursery is exploding with colorful options for any area of your yard. Make sure you prepare your beds by adding compost and fertilizer before you plant!! Check out the new Color Star fertilizer, it smells like roses!!! Your whole yard will smell like a rose garden when you're done!

In the lawn: If you haven't fertilized yet, it's ok to do it now. Do not use a Weed & Feed product unless completely necessary!!! If you only have a few weeds in a dormant lawn, just use a good quality lawn food like MicroLife Hybrid or NitroPhos Superturf. Mow on a low setting one time and bag to remove some of the thick winter thatch build up. Make sure you adjust the height back to 3" for future mowing's. Adjust sprinkler heads and make sure you are getting adequate coverage. Make sure sprinklers are set based on water needs. If it's been raining, then turn the sprinklers off and then back on when it dries out. Water (either too much or not enough) is the biggest problem in St. Augustine lawns. Let your lawn tell you when it's thirsty. At the first sign of wilt, give it a drink. This will promote a deeper root system, and less fungal and weed infestations. To save on water over the next few months, apply MicroLife Humates plus (this will help remediate the soils after last years rains). Humates aid in water penetration and water absorption. Your lawn will thank you for it☺

Trees and Shrubs: Do any necessary trimming and pruning if you haven't already and feed everything with a good slow release plant food like MicroLife (pink label) and apply a 2"-3" layer of compost under the dripline.

Get Your **Green** On!

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