



GARDENING HINTS FROM THE PRO

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

December Garden Hints

- **Flowerbeds** - Deadhead and feed cool season color plants with

Color Star Fertilizer. Continue to plant cool weather color: pansies, snapdragons, cabbage, kale, viola, alyssum, lobelia, cyclamen, and much more...

- **Lawns** - Your lawn should be in a dormant state and there's not much to do at this point. Make sure to back off your water while the lawn is dormant but make sure to water if we are going to have freezing temperatures.

- **Poinsettias** - Water well until soil is saturated and allow to dry between watering. Apply water to soil and not the foliage or blooms. Keep away from drafts.

- **Birds** - Don't forget to keep seed feeders full and fresh water in bird baths. Put out suet cakes. The extra protein helps keep our feathered friends warm in the winter months.

- **Freezes** - Have frost cloth on hand to cover tender plants in case of freezing weather. Wrap plants completely down to ground level. The less cold drafts move under the frost cloth, the better.

- **Vegetable Garden** - Work compost into the top couple inches of your garden beds. Plant a cover crop in empty beds such as peas, oats, or rye to keep the soil active. These cover crops can be cut and worked into the soil before spring planting. You can still plant cool weather seeds about every 2 weeks for fresh veggies into spring.

We are still recommending that you do soil remediation after the past two very wet years. The first step will be applying MicroLife Humates Plus. This is loaded with beneficial microbes that will repair your soils and help with long term recovery. Second, you will want to apply Medina soil activator and liquid molasses to stimulate microbial activity.

It is time to apply rye seed for a green lawn all winter. If you go with the rye seed, make sure it's an annual turf type rye. Regular Gulf type rye gets tall and is better for grazing animals than growing as a lawn.

Get Your Green On!

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