

March 15, 2022 Contributed by Kim Eckert

PREPARING YOUR GARDEN for a GLORIOUS SPRING

In the last several weeks, we have had at least a few beautiful days. On the first warm day, I took a long quiet walk around my gardens assessing any winter damage and also looking to see which perennials were trying to break through the soil.

After that walk and more nice weather, I just had to start working in my gardens. No doubt, some of you probably have been out enjoying your gardens as well. I've already spent hours preparing for what I hope is a glorious spring. Let me share my spring prep checklist:

- 1. Take a walk around your property and note any winter damage.
- 2. Prune non-spring blooming trees and shrubs. Prune in order of the three D's:
 - Cut out Damaged limbs and branches,
 - Remove **Diseased** sections of the plant and finally,
 - Design.
- 3. Prune ornamental grasses.
- 4. Prune back perennial growth from the previous year.
- 5. Weed and clear the garden beds of any winter debris.
- 6. Add soil enhancers (like Leafgro or compost) if necessary.
- 7. Top with 2" of mulch.
- 8. Take another walk around your gardens and enjoy the beautiful results of your hard work.







