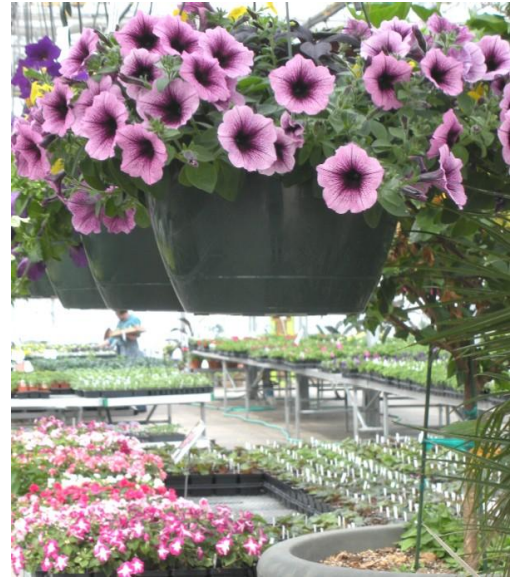




We've been rewarded with incredible weather this spring and so go ahead with the major clean up chores in your garden. Everything is ahead of schedule this year but don't let these beautiful days fool you into planting annuals like petunias (at right) and tender vegetables like tomatoes and peppers early. They are so susceptible to frost that we

are still recommending you wait to plant those until mid-May or later. You certainly could plant cole crops now.



### Here's what we have in mind for the next week's "to do" list.

- Clean out your perennial gardens. Weed what you can and remove stalks from last year's growth. Have patience with your perennials. They may not all be emerging yet; especially warm-season natives like grasses.



-Divide and transplant perennials as needed. At left, emerging peonies are disguised in red. Plant new trees and shrubs too (that's magnolia blooming to the right).

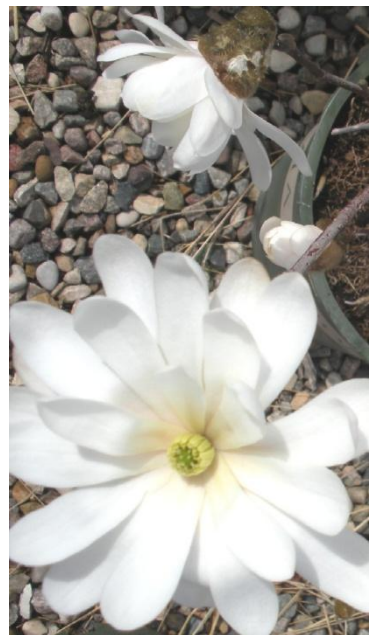
- This is also the only time you will be able to find bare-root stock so plant it now! I'm talking about select shrubs, asparagus and strawberries: yum!

- Spread a layer of compost and fertilize being careful not to burn any emerging foliage with fertilizer granules. Hold off on refreshing mulch until the soil has thoroughly warmed.

- When your bulbs have stopped blooming keep the green foliage in-tact until it naturally dries up. This will help the bulbs store energy for flower next year. Do remove spent flowers and emerging seed heads.

- You still have time to seed bare spots in your lawn if you're not using pre-emergent crabgrass control. Go ahead and apply crabgrass pre-emergent control now because soil temps have warmed enough to grow this weed. If you've mowed once or twice, go ahead and fertilize too. Remember to leave your grass long (2.5 to 3.5 inches) when you cut it so it shades out weeds and stays cool.

- Get your vegetable garden in shape by adding organic matter to the soil; your choice of compost or well rotted manure.



## **Remember your administrative assistant**

Next week is Administrative Professionals Week with Wednesday designated as "the day." Our florists will deliver great gifts right to the office. Choose a dish garden for a desk, Abdallah Chocolates, a fresh flowers, balloons, green and blooming plants or even a gift card to Drummers. Call us at 507-388-4877 or click on the arrangement to order.



## **Beautiful flowers for prom**

Our floral designers are happy to help you design exactly what will make the best fashion statement for you for prom... corsages, boutonnieres, flowers for her hair and carry bouquets.

