

## The Goddess Gardener's March Gardening Guide

**AMEND** your soil with compost to add the nutrients necessary.

**MAKE** compost by combining green (nitrogen) and brown (carbon) materials. To a bucket, bin, or pile, add coffee grinds, tea bags, chicken and rabbit droppings, grass clippings, vegetable scraps, straw, leaves, shredded newspaper, hay, dead plants, cardboard, and paper. Keep moist and turn. Do not use the animal waste from any carnivorous animals, including dogs and cats, and do not add diseased plants to the bin or pile.

**CHECK** irrigation systems. Repair leaks, clogs, and broken sprinkler heads.

**START** seeds indoors if you want a head start on growing your favorite vegetables. You will have to harden them off before planting in the garden.

**FORAGE** for wild greens including Miner's lettuce, mustard, creek watercress, and wild strawberries. The young leaves are delicious in salads and sautées.

**ORDER** tubers and root starters from Renees Garden for the best selection of horseradish, potatoes, onions, and asparagus for spring planting.

**FERTILIZE** trees, shrubs, and ground covers with organic feed.

**APPLY** snail bait around plants most susceptible to snail and slug damage or handpick the mollusks.

**SPRAY** roses, boxwoods, viburnum, iris, fruit trees, citrus trees, and crape myrtle trees with dormant oil to protect them from overwintering insects and fungal disease.

**HARVEST** lemons, limes, and oranges. The extra vitamin C will boost your immunity during this cold and flu season.

**SHARPEN** and clean tools.

**AERATE** lawns while the nights are still cool. Leave the plugs on the grass to feed the grass.

**PULL** weeds as they sprout.

**CUT** bouquets of daffodils, narcissus, viburnum, flowering quince, and Bergenia to brighten any room.

**DIVIDE** perennials including daylilies, agapanthus, yarrow, and phlox while they are semi-dormant.

**FLOAT** camellias in a pretty bowl and dispose of all fallen camellias from bushes.

**KILL** aphids with a strong spray of water or spray with a mixture of water and dishwashing detergent. Make sure to spray all sides of foliage and flowers.

**LEARN** what to do in your garden every month with the book, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," available at <http://starstylestore.net>

**PLANT** bare root roses, vines, and berry bushes.

**PRUNE** a branch of peach, plum, or pear and place the cutting in a tall vase to force the blooms for an enticing indoor arrangement.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. March in. March on.



Pick wild mustard greens while they are tender, small, and spicy.



Harvest citrus, including naval oranges.



Peach blossoms.



Black cows on the hill munch on grass underneath the flowering pear tree.

Photos Cynthia Brian