

Timely Turf Tips

March 2011

March Madness (noun): 1. an offensive term for winter's heavy snow still over a foot deep. 2. parking lot snow mountains two stories tall and more snow on the way. 3. rash or thoughtless behavior resulting in great enthusiasm for potting soil, seeds and lawn mowers.

Bring your game. March is the month spent excitedly on the brink of the tip off of a whole new yard and gardening season. The daffodils and tulips planted last year will be shooting out once the snow is melted, the perennials will rebound and there will be fast breaks to the Mill for seeds, mower maintenance and baseline soil testing. But first, take a time out and plan your game strategy. These are all vital issues to consider when making an all-star garden line-up.

- Make a list of what plants you want to grow, subbing in the stronger varieties and benching the not so performing ones. Our favorites include: Celebrity and Brandywine tomatoes and Mixed Color Peppers.
- Gather your seed starting equipment: sterilized soil or potting medium, divided containers, fluorescent lights, and seed starting mini-greenhouses. All found at the Mill!
- Travel to <http://tinyurl.com/ydw7xdj> for a complete guide on seed starting. Then just do it.
- If you're one of the fans in the stands and want to sit this one out and are interested in planting specialty peppers from our pepper's taste test last year, call Steve at 651-429-3361 to order now.
- The warm up: repot and start fertilizing houseplants now.
- Personal foul! Walking on and raking the lawn while it is still wet and muddy underfoot will unnecessarily uproot many healthy grass plants and contribute to increased soil compaction. Stay off!
- Prune oaks and fruit trees this month before spring growth starts. <http://tinyurl.com/4mtcpwo>
- Beat the rush! Bring your lawn mower in this month for maintenance and blade sharpening. Call Hugo Mill Outdoor Power today for your appointment: 651-429-8163

Previous issues of Timely Turf Tips newsletters are available at our website: www.hugofeedmill.com

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