

# PLANTING TIPS



## SOIL PREPARATION

1. Amend soil to a depth of 8-10"
2. Rototill or turn over soil with a shovel working in soil amendments.

Recommended amendments – 2-3" organic matter such as peat moss, composted leaves or Earth Pro Compost

Fertilizer – many types are available. We recommend Osmocote 14-14-14 (a slow release fertilizer that lasts in the soil all summer)

3. Every 3<sup>rd</sup> year give soil a *“fertilizer break” [no osmocote, add organic material]*

## PLANTING

1. Choose healthy green plants which are not “overgrown” or “rootbound” in flats or pots. Loosen root ball before planting.
2. Check plant tags to make sure you’re choosing right plant for right location (sun, shade, partial shade, etc.)
3. Plants should be well watered in flat before planting
4. Check tags for spacing information, Generally, the taller the plant, the more space it will need.

## MAINTENANCE

1. Until plants have grown together, soil around plants should be hoed occasionally, taking care not to disturb roots.
2. Plants should be thoroughly watered after planting and may require frequent watering until they are established. (1-2 weeks)
3. Established plants will need water as the soil around them begins to dry out. Water plants thoroughly once or twice a week as opposed to daily “Sprinkling.”
4. PREEN is the recommended for weed control to be applied AFTER weeds have been pulled. It is available at local garden centers.
5. Flowerbeds should be weeded at least weekly, taking care to dig out the entire weed including root. [Use your planting trowel]
6. Remove spent flowers (deadhead) for neat appearance and to encourage continued bloom.
7. Insect and disease problems should be properly identified before treatment. (Call Polly or take a sample to local garden center).

## FALL CLEANUP

Remove all dead plant material from bed area to avoid soil contamination from insects and disease.