Landscape May Tips

May Plant Hints

We are all hoping that May will finally bring Spring-like temperatures. Until that happens, we have to delay planting annuals, perennials and vegetables. The ground is too saturated for plants to flourish. Later in the month if you're shopping for perennials, some deer proof plants are Coreopsis, Lenten Rose, Bee Balm and Peony.

Pruning plants that bloom on 'old wood' like Forsythia, Lilac and Weigela, should be done after they have bloomed.

Pruning plants that bloom on 'new wood' or current season's growth like Abelia, Butterfly Bush and Caryopteris, can be pruned in early spring while the plant is dormant, before the buds show green.

Some indoor plants that are harmful to your pets are Lillies, Tulips, Azalea, English Ivy and Schefflera. A longer list can be seen on www.aspca.org/pet-care/poison-control/plant-list.

Garden Hints

Later in May when the soil can be turned over (no longer with clumps), mix in some compost, manure or sand. Some cool weather vegetable seeds like spinach, lettuce, Swiss chard, sugar snap peas, carrots and radishes can be planted. Side dress the rows of planted seeds with some 5-10-5, or 10-10-10 or Osmocote.

You can become a Gail's Nursery member and receive a monthly coupon that can be used to buy plants, fertilizer or tools. For every \$30.00 spent, \$5.00 is deducted. Also a good buy is their Compost & Manure in 40 lb. bags @\$3.39 each (this product is like Sweet Peat @\$7.99), to use when planting in order to break up clay soil.

ohiogardener.com; BottomLine.com; Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts U