



NORMARKNEWS



60 VIEW STREET, PASCOE VALE 3044 PHONE 9306 9394
WEB: www.normark.com.au EMAIL: normark@iprimus.com.au

Spring News

Things to do in your home garden during spring months

Look around Spring must be the most exciting time of the year for any gardener. Winter doesn't want to let go and we still get some cold nights and days but everywhere you look there are signs of spring. The bulbs are flowering, the spring blossom trees and shrubs are full of bloom. Some fruit trees are already flowering, everything is starting to grow.

Weed Unfortunately the weeds are also growing and if you don't get rid of them, they soon take over your garden. If you can, pull them out, best time is after the rain when ground is soft and you get them with roots. If there's too many, find a safe weed killer. If using spray, make sure to use it during calm day and to protect your plants.

Feed Once you get rid of the weeds it's time to start a feeding program for your garden to support the new growth. There are all-purpose fertilizers but best is to get specialised fertilizers that are designed to provide balanced food for your plants. Camellias should be fertilized if they finished flowering. Feed your roses to support new growth and ensure you'll get strong flowers. With the extra rain we recently got and the warmer weather your lawn is looking nice and green. It should get regular food to strengthen it before summer.

Mulch After weeding and fertilizing use plenty of mulch to retain moisture and to keep the weeds down. There's plenty of different types and colours of mulch to choose from.

Spray Aphids just love the new growth, specially on roses and can multiply into thousands before you blink your eye. Protect your plants with safe spray. Make sure to spray only during a calm day and protect yourself from inhaling any spray with safety mask.

Prune As a general rule of thumb plants can be trimmed once they finished flowering.. Pruning promotes new growth and ensures more flowers next year.

Plant Brighten the garden by planting bloomers (seedlings already flowering). They provide instant lift for any dark or empty space. If you enjoy home grown veggies, now is a good time to start planting. Check your local nursery for best varieties to plant each month.

Plan When planning a new garden or adding new plant to existing garden, keep in mind the requirement for each plant and group plants with same needs together. E.g. water loving plants are easier to water if they're together, you don't need to water whole garden. Enquire about replacing water demanding plants with draught resistant plants, they save precious resource and also work of watering. As a general guide, plants with small, hairy and silvery grey leaves are adapted to dry conditions, also plants with tough waxy leaves are drought resistant.

It won't be long and we'll be enjoying warm summer evenings. We regard patios and verandahs as extension of our house to enjoy barbie with family of friends. Plan now to upgrade this area with paving, colorful pots or water features.

Enjoy That's what it's about. Walk around the garden after hectic day at work to clear your mind by looking at the nature and enjoy the warmer weather.

Relax If you just like the pleasure of the garden but not the hard work that goes into maintaining it, Normarks here to help. We'll be more than happy to maintain your garden at reasonable rates. All you have to do is specify your needs and we'll take care of the rest.

Normark pay particular attention to keeping your site clean during the project and cleaning up after the job has been finished (nothing is worse than having equipment, rubbish and materials lying every-where during and after a job!).

Normark Landscapes

Commercial

We are close to completing several larger projects and the work is progressing well in spite of disruption of our work schedule by bad weather.



Above Site before.
Left Unfortunate mishap by driver.
Right Site after. A new rockery and planter box.



Domestic

What is perfect garden? For each person it's something different. Some people like straight lines and bold colours, some romantic corners, some playground for children or pets, the list is endless. We are creating a dream gardens that our clients visualize and the landscape architect draw on paper. Hope families will enjoy our creations for many years to come.



Vasili's Garden

Hi to all,

It's Spring and with high levels of rain predicted, your plants, especially vegies are sure to catch some sort of fungal disease like Rust or Downy mildew. So what better way to protect them with than by making your own fungicide.

All you need is some Bluestone copper sulphate and Hydrated Lime which you can purchase from your local nursery.

Mix 1 x teaspoon of Bluestone and 2 x teaspoons of Lime with 1 Litre of water, shake well and spray all the plants in your garden every 14 days.

But remember never spray the flowers otherwise the fruit and vegies wont set and the flowers can get damaged and you'll probably kill all the bees. (Only spray when in bud.)

Keep applying this until mid January and stop when the fruit are beginning to ripen.

Want to learn more? Then switch on to Vasili's Garden TV show on Channel 31 every Friday 7.30pm and Tuesday 8.30pm and learn more about 'Grass Roots' gardening.

Watch out for 'Vasili's Chilli' seedling coming soon to your local nursery, it's a sizzler if you know what I mean.

Until next time, from me Vasili, Maresi!

Thought for today:

Family that works together, stays together. Get your kids to help in the garden. They may not be willing at first but most kids love planting flowers and veggies and watching it grow.

Maintenance – What we're doing for you now

Please bear with us during this time of the year. The lawns starting to grow at rapid pace but due to frequent rains the soil is soft and grass is wet for proper mowing. The weeds are growing like mad but windy weather prevents us from spraying. Also, if we spray before rain, the herbicide gets washed away so the weeds flourish and we're hurting the environment with herbicide running off into the drains.

- ✿ Mow the lawns more frequently than during the winter months
- ✿ Fertilize lawns to promote strong growth
- ✿ Fertilize trees and shrubs to support new growth
- ✿ Trim and fertilize winter flowering plants to encourage new growth and more flowers next year
- ✿ Checking and adjusting the irrigation

Normark staff changes:

Welcome to...

Shane Crimmins - additional maintenance manager.

Shane is a certified Green Gardener and holds certificate in horticulture. He's experienced in all areas of Property management

Advertisements / Sponsors

Snap Printing Essendon

1/76 Keilor Road, Essendon North –
Tel 9374 2399

PPS – Plastic Plumbing & Irrigation Supplies,

71F Matthews Avenue, Airport West –
Tel 9335 6666

Essendon Garden Center

Mt. Alexander Road, Essendon –
Tel 9379 0555



nmit
www.nmit.vic.edu.au

Courses at NMIT

NMIT offers training in:

- OH&S Safety Management Systems & Implementation
- OH&S Compliance Audits
- Chainsaw Operations
- Earthmoving Operations
- Weed ID & Control
- Landscape Design
- Irrigation

For more information 9269 8910
dougs-hrt@nmit.vic.edu.au

Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE

