



# how to Prep Your Garden for spring

bird-friendly

## 1. When in doubt, wait to pull it out.

*new growth could be a native plant*

## 2. Cut old dried stems.

## 3. Use dried twigs and leaves as mulch.

*birds like it!*

## 4. Check the soil moisture.

*if the soil feels dry, then it's time to water*

### ***container gardens***

- ☑ Use fresh potting soil and a clean container for new plants.
- ☑ Use a container that is deeper than the rooting depth of the plant.
- ☑ Leave a small space between the top of the soil and the rim of the pot. ½ inch for small containers and up to 2 inches for large containers.
- ☑ Use a container with plentiful drainage.
- ☑ Smaller containers and clay pots need water more often.
- ☑ On the roof, consider setting up a wind-break, such as a lattice, that won't cast shade.

### ***plants in the ground***

- ☑ Prune summer and fall-blooming woody plants, as needed.
- ☑ When ground has thawed, plant trees, shrubs, and perennials.
- ☑ Re-plant trees, shrubs, and perennials, that have "heaved" out of the ground.
- ☑ Mulch with leaf litter, twigs, and dead perennial stems.
- ☑ Check soil moisture 1-2" down. If the soil feels dry, then it's time to water.
- ☑ Apply compost, compost tea or other slow-release organic fertilizers as needed.

***happy spring!***

