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DURANGO NURSERY & SUPPLY

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Bulbs!

Bulbs are a wonderful, easy, and rewarding way to brighten any garden! Some bloom very early in spring providing the first bouts of color, others provide prolific blooms throughout summer, and others can provide the last colors of Fall! Bulbs help break up tough soils and be resistant to damage caused by animals. Many varieties are toxic if ingested. When choosing bulbs, factor in the consistent temperature (or Zone) and deep soil quality of your yard. These plants store all their energy in their bulb, particularly those with extended periods of inactivity, and this powerhouse may have specific requirements to bloom continuously.

General Planting

Bulbs should be planted according to the varieties' requirements (generally into a hole 3x deeper than the diameter of the bulb itself). Plant Bulbs with any sprouts, shoots, greens, or tops (the pointy end) pointing up and any roots facing down. Do not amend the soil with Peat Moss, as bulbs prefer well-drained soils. Do not forget to water bulbs after planting, during dry winters, and consistently during the growing season. Bulbs love slow-release fertilizers like Bone Meal and Yum Yum. After these plants bloom, their foliage will die back naturally and can be easily removed. Do not cut or force the removal of foliage to ensure a healthy dormancy.

Summer Planting for Fall Flowers

There are few bulbs to plant during the heat of the year, yet Giant Crocus and Freesia bulbs are a wonderful way to add some color to your yard as other perennials and shrubs begin to lose their summer or fall splendor.

Fall Planting for Spring Flowers

These are many of our "Perennial" bulbs, such as Spring blooming Crocus, Daffodils, Flowering Allium, Tulips, Snowdrops, and More! These items should be planted in the fall or mid-October while the soil is still malleable at a depth appropriate for each variety. Water after planting and in spring after emergence. These bulbs can make spectacular Lawns,

Spring Planting for Summer & Fall Flowers

The bulbs can go directly into the ground when there is no longer a risk of frost and can provide spectacular blooms such as Asiatic Lilies, Dahlias, Gladiolus, and more. Many of these bulbs are not cold-hardy for our climate and may require harvesting and storage for future planting. Check out our Harvesting Bulbs Handout! These are optimal bulbs to be used for Cut Flowers, Container Gardens, and

Winter or Annual Bulbs

These are generally known as "Holiday" bulbs that are planted as houseplants or decorations. These will produce one set of beautiful blooms and scents before their bulbs enter dormancy. They can be "Forced" to bloom again, although this process is heavily dependent upon the variety of bulbs and the climate of your home.

Forcing Bulbs Indoor

When attempting to "Force" a bulb to produce blooms outside of its natural season, the bulb should be refrigerated or frozen appropriately to simulate winter dormancy. Forcing should be researched based on the bulb variety and desired impact.