

LIFE/FAMILY

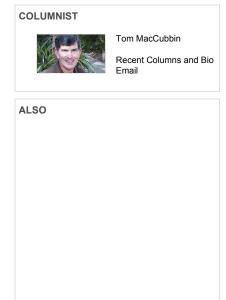
SCHOOLS GROWING BOLDER MOMS AT WORK FOOD/RECIPES HOME/GARDEN POOLS EASTER RELIGION WEDDINGS PETS CELEBRATIONS

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- 9. Check the soil acidity of all home lawns; adjust the pH if needed.
- 10. Lawns with brown blades can be raked or left to outgrow the damaged portions.
- 11. Complete the first feeding of the new year with a lawn fertilizer.
- 12. Starter fertilizers can be used with new lawns to supply some phosphorus for root growth.
- 13. It's too late to control crabgrass from seed; dig out and resod these areas.
- 14. Chinch bug controls are often needed at this time for St. Augustine lawns.
- 15. Control weeds while they are small and more likely to be affected by herbicides.
- 16. Fill in bare spots left by cold or pests before weed growth begins.
- 17. Check to make sure lawns are being mowed at the proper height.
- 18. Remove excessive quantities of tree leaves from home lawns before mowing.

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- 19. Spring is often dry; water when the lawn begins to show moisture stress.
- 20. Train your lawn to no more than once or twice a week watering.
- 21. Adjust sprinklers to avoid sidewalks and roadways and water only the turf.
- **22.** Apply up to three-quarters of an inch of water at each irrigation.
- 23. Yellow lawns can often be regreened with an iron only application.
- 24. Change the oil and service air filters of gas powered equipment.
- 25. Sharpen mower blades when the cutting edges begin to dull.
- 26. Edge lawns growing along sidewalks.
- 27. Aerate lawns and remove thatch if needed.

Landscape chores

- 28. Rake and use leaves as mulch or compost them for later use in the gardens.
- 29. Replant with a majority of cold hardy shrubs and perennials.
- 30. Remove declining cool season annuals and add a spring warm weather selection.
- 31. Make sure the root balls of all plant are moist at planting time.
- 32. Build berms at the edge of root balls of new trees and shrubs to direct water to the roots.
- **33.** Give all poinsettias a spring trimming; repot new ones or add them to the landscape.
- **34.** Most established trees and shrubs are drought tolerant; water when they show signs of stress.
- **35.** Maintain 2- to 3-inch mulch layers with trees and shrubs; one inch in flower beds.
- 36. Water annuals and perennials when the soil begins to dry or they show signs of wilting.
- 37. Use slow release fertilizers that can feed landscape plants for months.
- 38. Feed palms with special fertilizers made for these plantings every 3 to 4 months.
- 39. Weed landscape plantings to reduce competition for water and nutrients.
- 40. Complete pruning of overgrown plants.
- **41.** Prune spring flowering trees and shrubs after the blossoms fade.
- 42. Inspect older trees and trim as needed before the hurricane season begins.
- 43. Check sagos for white cycad scale and control as needed.
- 44. Trim old flower stalks from amaryllis, amazon lilies and other spring flowering plants.
- **45.** Plant a tree, shrub or vine on National Arbor Day April 27.
- 46. Water new plantings as needed to keep the soil moist.
- 47. Divide perennials before the really hot weather arrives.
- 48. Train vines to a trellis or arbor.
- **49.** Form air layers to propagate hard to root trees and shrubs.
- 50. Add a water feature to the landscape; clean established ones.
- **51.** Transplant and feed water lilies and bog plants.

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