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Planting: Bulbs: This is the last month to plant spring flowering bulbs. Plant them about 6-8" deep. Put a tablespoon of bone meal in each hole. Roses: If you can find them now, transplant shock is minimized. Dig soil to 18" deep. Allow soil to settle a couple of days. Watch so you do not plant too deep over the bud union (where it's been grafted). Add a little bone meal now, but no fertilizer. Don't plant if the soil is sticky. Sweet peas and peas: Try planting a small crop for next spring. Plant them deeper than you would in spring. Garlic Cloves: Plant single cloves in enriched soil 2" deep and 12" apart. Garlic is easy to grow and is so nice to have. Ground cover: These can be planted early this month. Ferns, sweet woodruff, kinnickinick, periwinkle, salal, ivy and bishop's weed are just a few examples. Berries: Early in the month plant boysenberries, currants, gooseberries, loganberries and raspberries. Most will get established now and have some berries next summer.

Fertilizing: Garden: Turn under coarse organic material such as fresh manure, corn stalks, leaves, etc., in your garden. This will decay over the winter and add humus to your soil. Mulch: Mulch many perennials such as lily of the valley. Don't mulch peonies with manure as this sometimes promotes botrytis blight. Mulch camellias with manure. New Garden Areas: These areas are helped next year by fall digging and adding of compost and manure. Either spade them in or work in with a heavy duty rototiller. You'll find you'll be able to plant earlier next spring.

Pruning: Chrysanthemums: When plants finish blooming this year, cut to within 6" of the ground. Hydrangeas: Prune the stems that have bloomed this year back to an unflowered lateral or two-bud spur. If plants are woody or stubby, they can be renewed by pruning to the ground. Cane Berries: If you haven't done so, cut back the parts that have produced fruit this year to the ground. Roses: Remove the last of the spent blooms. Don't prune until you can tell the sap has run down. A good sign is that the rose has set hips (the little apple-like fruit of the rose). Then the rose will begin to go dormant.

Spray for Insects and Disease: Slugs: Keep out traps until heavy winter rains keep up. The more control you do, the fewer slugs you will have next spring. Don't forget to clean up your beds, so the slugs don't have a place to lay eggs and over winter. Roses: You can apply dormant spray, covering shrubs thoroughly and the ground around them, if the leaves are gone.

Hints: Compost: Alternate leaves from raking with 1/2" soil and fertilizer or 2" of manure and a thin layer of lime. Soak the layers with a fine spray. Turn in one month. Put a plastic cover over the pile because the rain leaches out the nutrients. Staking Trees: Stake trees after planting, especially if they are large. Always stake as low and as loosely as possible so the tree does not become dependent on the stake to hold it upright. Occasionally check ties to make sure they aren't rubbing or girdling the tree. Never use plain wire for ties. Always cover with hose or some other materials so they do not cut into the tree. Remove staking as soon as possible after the tree is rooted in. Harvesting and Storage: Cabbages and brussel sprouts should be kept outside as long as possible. Sometimes the outer leaves get slimy late



in the winter, but once they are stripped off, the inner head is usually good. To keep carrots, beets, potatoes, turnips, and other root crops, humidity and temperature are the key. They do best in a cool humid place. Keep in moist sand or sawdust. Parsnips and horseradish can be stored in the ground. Store pumpkins and squash with 1-2 inches of stem to keep disease from entering. Don't wash after harvesting as this destroys the natural protective coating. They will stay fresh until March or April if kept in a dark, cool, dry place.