

Cricklade Bloomers

Working to Make Cricklade a Better Place



Spring has arrived

March heralds the beginning of spring and you will see hosts of golden daffodils, blue crocus, pink hyacinths and red tulips in abundance all around the Town. As the temperature warms up around the middle of the month and more of the spring flowers appear so will the WEEDS. Cricklade Bloomers will be tackling weeds around the Towns streets and borders in March and throughout the year.

Can you help? Yes by joining your neighbours to weed and sweep your street; don't allow those weeds to get too big and set seed.

This month Cricklade Bloomers will be planting new shrubs and trees, and keeping all the planters dead headed to prolong the flowering period.

If you are new to gardening and would like to learn more; come along to the Bank Garden behind the Council Offices between 9.30 and 12.30 we are always happy to share gardening advice but join us and get some great particle hands on experience.

Top 10 jobs this month

1. Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes (Traditionally on St Patrick's Day 17th March)
2. Protect new spring shoots from slugs (use a ring of gravel around susceptible plants)
3. Plant summer-flowering bulbs
4. Lift and divide overgrown clumps of perennials (if you have some spare bring them along to the Bank Garden, we often have schools or neighbourhood groups who need good plants)
5. Top dress containers with fresh compost
6. Mow the lawn on dry days (if needed)
7. Cut back *Cornus* (dogwood) and *Salix* (willow) grown for colourful winter stems next year
- 8. Weeds come back in to growth - deal with them before they get out of hand**
9. Start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; remove pond heaters
10. Open the greenhouse or conservatory doors and vents on warm days

Working Parties in March

We meet each Saturday morning 9.30 to 12.30 at the Bank Garden. Refreshments Provided.

Saturday 6th March – New planting at Suce sur Place.

Saturday 13th March – A spring tidy for St Sampson's Church borders

Saturday 20th March – Work on the Towns entrances + mowing around the spring bulb displays

Saturday 27th March – Learn how to plant potatoes, shallots & onion sets

Sunday 28th March - Cricklade in Bloom Launch, look out for posters or see all the details on our web site

www.crickladeinbloom.co.uk

Please phone Anita Barratt 01793 751403 or Bob Jones 01793 750773 for more information

Important Dates

South West in Bloom judging will be between 7th & 21st July, actual date TBC

Britain in Bloom National judging will be between 2nd & 13th August, actual date TBC