

Spring **TO IT**

Whether you are preparing your home for sale, or you simply want to give your gardens a good clean up before Spring, here's a few handy tips to help you get ready for the coming warm season ahead.

Spray for Bindii

There's nothing worse than trying to have a game of footy in the front yard only to have the kids fall prey to a case of foot bindii!!! These nasty weeds tend to rear their heads late in winter and as most of us know, the prickles on the seeds can be extremely painful if you stand on them in summer. To help keep your lawns bindii free, speak to your local garden expert for advice on the most appropriate spray for the type of grass you have and get spraying before Bindii weeds get a foothold in your lawn.

Cultivate Gardens Beds

Want the best gardens in the street? Then start cultivating your garden beds before the warm weather arrives. If possible, start working your gardens after a rainy day so the soil is softer to turn over. Using a fork or hoe, work and loosen the soil areas between plants and remove any weeds as you go. When you have finished cultivating, add in some quality manure to feed the soil and the plants. Three of the most used manures are cow manure, horse, or chook manure. Cow manure is a great all-purpose manure and is ideal as a general soil conditioner. Horse manure tends to have a higher nutrient level so is ideal for vegetable and flower beds. Chook manure is even more rich in nitrogen making it a good choice for lawns and vegetable gardens. It can damage natives however, so make sure you choose the right manure for your plants.

Clean Hard Areas

Windows, pergolas, paths, and decks can all take a beating in winter from mildew, moss, and mould. Not only can this look unsightly, moss and mould on paths can become a slipping hazard. One of the most efficient ways to remove winter moss and mould is with a high pressure cleaner. You can also purchase biodegradable products such as Wet & Forget which can be easily sprayed on hard surfaces to remove mould, mildew, lichen, and moss, giving your hard surfaces a fresh clean look – perfect if you are selling your property.



Mulch

One of the unsung heroes of gardening, mulch is a must-have to help soil retain water, suppress weed growth and help prevent soil washing away in the rain. Good water retention in soil is a must-have with the hot weather just around the corner and mulching garden beds also adds nutrients in soil as it breaks down (if you are using an organic mulch). Speak to your local garden centre about the best mulch to use.

Love Your Lawns

Here's a perfect at-home workout that also produces lush green lawns for summer. Top dressing is a must for anyone considering selling, as it brings lawns out of winter dormancy and encourages strong growth. Before you top dress, give your lawns a good mow then aerate with a machine or use special spikes on the base of work boots to punch holes in the ground. Next, evenly spread your top dressing soil (speak to a garden specialist about the best soil to have delivered that suits your lawn) with a shovel, working back and forth from one corner of your lawns to the other. Level with a rake. Top dressing soil usually takes a few days to sink into the grass, so keep animals and people off the lawn until this time. Once all the hard work is done, fertilise your lawns and watch them grow!!!

