

Is this email not displaying correctly?
[View it in your browser.](#)



Adding Artful Beauty
and Value to your Outdoor Spaces



Welcome to March and a very early spring this year. We had such a warm February many trees and shrubs have bloomed before their normal time...very confusing for them, but hopefully all of us took advantage of those early sunny days. I'm currently installing a new back yard and a complete front yard redo using some really fabulous Pavers, Travertine tile and Flagstone. I'll be sure to share the finished product pics with you.

Please remember that when you plant anything new, use a good quality soil amendment and dig a large hole when planting, mixing the new compost in with our native soil in a 50:50 ratio. This will help get the plants established and if you do that each and every time, even adding the 'black gold' around existing plants and digging in, you will be amazed at how your plants will thrive. This is especially important when you or your neighbors have large trees, the nutrients have to be returned to the earth. Big trees suck everything from the soil, leaving the little perennials and shrubs trying to compete with whatever is left.

Night lighting is something I would like to discuss this month. A garden can be beautiful when the sun is up but at night we can't forget that having some large interesting trees, structures, fountains or even architectural features on your home highlighted with spot lighting can make a huge impact from inside looking out. Or having pathway lighting to guide you safely around once the sun sets is another aspect one sometimes overlooks. Please look at the video this month if you want to hear more on lighting.

Enjoy this wonderful spring-like weather and feel free to call me with any projects you may have or questions I could answer for you. Get out in your gardens!



Garden To Do List

March

- Feed Fuchsias with a fertilizer, 0-10-10 ratio.
- To restore a lawn after winter rains, can aerate and/or thatch then fertilize with a high nitrogen feed to restore nutrients again.
- Control snails and slugs. They love the tender new growth of a variety of plants in your garden. A great natural way to rid these hungry critters is to pour out some beer in a low flat dish. The smell attracts them, they crawl in and drown! Or SLUGGO is a good choice for use around pets.
- Feed Azaleas, Camellias, and Rhododendrons with a high nitrogen acid fertilizer and Ironite after blooms are done.



Landscape Lighting Video Tip

In this month's video I'll give you tips and tricks to add lighting to your outdoor space. Outdoor lights provide much more than security. The right lighting can truly enhance your space and add warmth and ambience and can be used to highlight the natural and structural features of your yard.

Garden To Do List

Continued

- Now is the time to work some aluminum sulfate into your soil around your Hydrangeas if you want that intense blue. There are several brands on the market at your local nurseries.
- Plant Dahlias this year!! They can be

- Feed citrus with a good citrus food from your local nursery. Add a little chelated iron if still yellow.
- Feed fruit trees and berries with a good all-purpose fertilizer, such as 12-12-12 ratio, and a super phosphate such as 0-20-0, to increase fruit production.
- It is good to add to your existing layer of mulch in your gardens. I tend to like a dark black micro bark that can be purchased in bulk or in bags. A deep 2"-3" layer is advised, as this helps keep weeds to a minimum, helps keep in the moisture in the heat of summer, and lastly when it does break down eventually it helps keep our heavy soils loose and light. One word of caution, when adding your mulch keep a little away from the crown of each plant. They need to breathe just like we do, so don't crowd them.

purchased now as tubers, looking like a sweet potato. There are many varieties coming in many colors to choose from. Plant Dahlias in a sunny spot, add plenty of compost and plant deep (6"). You will be rewarded with a spectacular display from summer into fall.

Lynda Meikle

Your Garden Coach

Contact: (925) 462-1484

outervisionsdesign.com

Email: outervisions@comcast.net



[follow on Twitter](#) | [friend on Facebook](#) | [forward to a friend](#)

Copyright © 2014 Outer Visions Landscape Design, All rights reserved.

You have received this email because you are a friend or client of Outer Visions Landscape Design.

Our mailing address is:

Outer Visions Landscape Design
2125 Arroyo Ct
Pleasanton, California 94588

[Add us to your address book](#)

MailChimp

[unsubscribe from this list](#) | [update subscription preferences](#)