

HOW SHOULD I CARE FOR MY PERENNIALS SO THEY WILL GROW AGAIN NEXT YEAR?



Perennials are plants that live year after year. There are advantages to planting perennials since they do not have to be set out every year like annuals.

1. Select plants that are suited for the location – sun, part sun, shade.
2. Proper preparation of the soil will enhance success, so have the soil tested and adjust the pH level as needed.
3. Allow sufficient time for plants to establish themselves before blooming or the onset of cold weather.
4. Regular fertilization is necessary as perennial plantings can rob the soil of its natural fertility. A light fertilization program gives a continuous supply of nutrients to produce healthy plants. Always water the bed after applying fertilizer.
5. Make sure that all roots are reached when watering to encourage deep healthy roots. A soaker hose works best in flower beds since the water seeps into the ground with no waste.
6. Mulching perennials helps maintain uniform moisture conditions and reduces weeds in the garden.
7. In the fall, remove dead leaves and stems. These materials often harbor insects and disease-causing organisms. Apply winter mulch after the soil temperature has dropped.