



Revitalizing your ANNUALS FOR SUMMER

As the summer grows longer, ensuring your annuals thrive and provide a stunning display throughout the summer season is very important to the aesthetics and health of your garden. Whether you're an experienced gardener, or a beginner, this handout will guide you through the steps to revitalize your annuals and keep your garden blooming with vibrant colors.

ASSESSING THE CURRENT STATE OF YOUR ANNUALS

Before you start revitalizing your annuals, take some time to evaluate their current condition. Look for signs of stress, nutrient deficiencies, pests, diseases, and any other issues that may be hindering their growth. Identifying the problems early on will help you implement appropriate solutions effectively.

PRUNING & DEADHEADING

Regular pruning and deadheading are crucial for maintaining healthy and blooming annual plants. Remove spent flowers (deadheading) to encourage new blooms and prevent the plant from putting energy into seed production. Additionally, prune leggy or overgrown stems to encourage bushier growth and redirect the plant's energy to healthier parts.

WATERING & SOIL CARE

Proper watering is vital for the health of your annuals during the hot summer months. Water deeply, and consistently, to ensure the roots receive enough moisture. However, avoid overwatering, as this can lead to root rot and other issues, including pests and diseases. Consider using mulch around your plants to retain moisture and regulate soil temperature.

FEEDING FOR GROWTH

Annual plants have high nutrient requirements to support their rapid growth and continuous blooming. Choose a balanced plant food with a higher middle number (phosphorus) to encourage flowering. Apply the plant food according to the instructions on the packaging, as over-feeding can harm the plants. We have a variety of options at our Garden Pharmacy to inquire about with our Green Team members.

MANAGING PESTS & DISEASES

Inspect your annuals regularly for any signs of pests or diseases. Early detection is crucial for effective control. Use natural remedies, or low-toxicity solutions, whenever possible to avoid harming beneficial insects and pollinators. Neem oil, insecticidal soap, and companion planting are some environmentally friendly options.

ENHANCING AESTHETICS WITH COMPANIONS

Consider companion planting to enhance the aesthetics of your garden and benefit your annuals. Some plants have symbiotic relationships, where one species repels pests that harm the other or improves soil conditions. Research suitable companion plants to create a harmonious and beneficial garden ecosystem.

Revitalizing your annuals for summer can be a rewarding experience, leading to a vibrant and flourishing garden. By following the tips and techniques mentioned in this handout, you can ensure that your annuals continue to bloom beautifully throughout the season.

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