October is for planting spring blooming bulbs!



DAFFODILS CHASE AWAY WINTER WITH BRAVE FLOWERS



LEUCOJUM DANGLE WHITE BELLS THROUGH SPRING



SCILLA CAN CARPET THE GROUND IN BLUE PURPLE FLOWERS

GOAG BULBS



Time to plant spring blooming bulbs!

Fall is the time of expressive foliage, Concord grapes, college football, and bulb planting. Spring flowering bulbs need to get in the ground now to establish their roots and get ready to emerge once winter breaks. Order your bulbs as soon as possible so they will be fresher and so the ones you want don't sell out. There are dozens of genera and hundreds of varieties. Select a mixture that gives your garden blooms all season. Below are some of my favorite types for big wows, sweet fragrances, and awesome bouquets.

Long-cupped
Cyclamineus
daffodils are suited
for moist soils and
perennial beds.

Narcissus (Daffodils and Jonquils)

One of the most popular plants in the world and the herald of spring. These plants can last for generations and grow into amazing stands of beauty. Narcissus has an incredible range of sizes, scents, and styles. Everyone knows the bold yellow Trumpets. Others, like Poeticus, Triandrus, and Tazetta extend the season and are just as exciting with more fragrance.

Scilla (Squills and Bluebells)

Scillas bring the blues in a good way. These smaller bulbs look best en masse. Two of the most prolific are Siberian squill, which covers the ground in late winter, and Spanish bluebells, whose robust stems flower in late spring.

Tulipa (Tulips)

Tulips bring unmatched color to the spring landscape. Over hundreds of years breeders have developed a dizzying array of varieties with different shapes, colors, and bloomtimes. Darwins are sturdy and tall. Parrots have striking multi colored patterns. Fringed have frilly tips. And the small species are like bright, reliably perennial, fragrant, earth jewels. Find a space for *Tulipa tarda*, *T. linifolia*, and *T. saxatillis* in your gardens and containers.

Leucojum aestivum (Spring Snowflake)

As cousins to daffodils, leucojums are wildlife resistant and persistent in the landscape. One of the longest blooming bulbs, they can push out their green-tipped white bells from mid to late spring. In moist soils the dark foliage remains attractive through summer. Add them to perennial beds, swales, and meadows.

Allium (Flowering Onions)

Alliums are the stars of late spring and early summer. They resemble large lollipops waving in the breeze. Like most onions, they are wildlife resistant and long lived. New varieties are introduced every year. One of the best is Allium 'Gladiator' with true purple flower heads on stalks over 3' tall in May.

Liilium (Lilies)

Lilly bulbs respond well to fall planting. They range from the 18" May blooming Coral lily to the 8' late August flowering Orienpets. Have fun picking out colors, fragrances, heights, bloomtimes, and conditions. When lily bulbs arrive, plant them as soon as possible.

GOAG Events

Come out and plant a fall container with me at the Evanston Farmer's Market on October 13th from 8 - 11:00am. Register for a slot at getoutandgrow.org/events/2018/10/13/fall-fresh-flowers-foliage-potting-party. We'll have the plants, pots, and soil. You bring your garden questions and smiles. Get Out & Grow!

Tulips brighten the landscape with large flowers in nearly all colors and hues







Alliums have tall stalks with big balls of tiny flowers that seem to float in the air.

Lilies planted now will establish over the winter and be ready to provide a fantastic show of large color flowers in early summer.