

Timely Turf Tips

February 2018

Looking to get out of the house this winter, check out these upcoming events. First, join Steve and celebrate firey foods at **Bent Brewstillery in Roseville Saturday, February 10 from 2-7 PM**. Go to their website and click on Events to learn more about this experience. Next, spend the day at the 2018 **Chisago County Master Garden Expo** held at North Branch High School, **Saturday, March 3 from 9 AM-3:30 PM**. For information and a registration form go to the University of Minnesota Extension site, www3.extension.umn.edu/county/chisago/master-gardeners/article/2018-ccmg-garden-expo, and learn more about the classes offered. Be sure to get there early to take in “Discover the Wonderful World of Peppers”, presented by Steve- aka “Dr. Pepper.” Finally, consider heading to Minneapolis for a free presentation by Steve titled, **“Discover Peppers: How to Grow Sweets, Hots and Anything in Between” held at Mother Earth Gardens**. There are two dates available, **Monday, March 12**, at the Mother Earth Gardens- Longfellow location and **Wednesday, March 14**, at the Mother Earth Gardens- Northeast location. Both events start at 7 PM. Go to their website, www.motherearthgarden.com, and click on Upcoming Events to learn more about the seminar and sign up. Say, “So what!” to the cold and take in one of these events.

Get ready, get set, sow, or let Steve know

Plan for next summer’s flower and garden needs. If you start plants, assemble the equipment needed: pots, trays, fluorescent lights that can be adjusted for height, timer for lights, and a heating device to put under the containers of germinating seeds. For more information check out this article, *Starting Seeds Indoors*, at www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/flowers/starting-seeds-indoors/

Make sure your favorite pepper and tomato plants will be available this spring. Call 651-429-3361 today and talk to Steve or email him at steve@hugofeedmill.com.

A little pruning now could lead to better trees

Prepare your trees for next summer with dormant pruning done late February and early March. The University of Minnesota Extension states, “The late dormant season is the best for most pruning.” Pruning at this time of year has many benefits including easier ability to see problem branches when leaves are gone and less disease spreading concerns. It’s best to start pruning trees when they are young to develop a strong leader and remove problematic branches before they become too large. For more information about pruning trees and shrubs see these links from the U of M Extension and MN DNR:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/trees-shrubs/pruning-trees-shrubs>
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/treecare/caring-pruning.html>



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