

garden

By Roger Myers

Roger Myers is the President and Founder of American Beauty Landscaping. Established in 1979, ABL is the Valley's industry leader with more than 100 national, state and local awards to its landscape design and build credit.



YO1008 Log # 508

MARVELOUS MUMS

The term garden mum derives from chrysanthemum cultivars that will flower naturally in Ohio and be early enough to avoid heavy frost. Mums come in almost any color you could imagine however if

you think you have blue ones they are probably Asters, another fall flower quite worthy of your attention. I like the white daisy-like mums with a golden "eye" however as they age, the flower petals turn brown; not exactly desirable.

When you are planting your potted fall mums, be sure to severely break up the intense root ball that most plants form in the pot. Next, make numerous vertical slices with a utility knife. The plants require thorough watering when

planted, and daily watering until established. Fertilizing the plants will develop deep green leaves and optimum flowering. We use a 5-10-5 dry, slow release then watered in.



The earlier they are planted – the more likely they will survive the winter. For best results, plant them as cuttings in the spring.

If you have established plants that have returned, pinching back the growing tips during the year is essential. Here's an easy way to remember: pinch 1-2" on Memorial Day and again on the 4th of July and no later.

Plant your mums in mass. They will make great curb appeal. Change out your summer potted annuals and include Kale, Cabbage, or grasses. What a great way to brighten up your porch for a couple more months!



Don't forget to visit our special web site for great spring bulb ideas. Now is the time to order and plant.

Just click on
www.AmericanBeautyLandscaping.com
and follow the link to Spring Bulbs.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Roger A. Myers

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