

# GUIDE TO FERTILIZING



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## WHY FERTILIZE?

- Fertilizer provides a source of essential nutrients that plants need to grow normally and be healthy.
- Fertilizers can stimulate growth and improve the color & appearance of plants.
- The three primary nutrients contained in most fertilizers are nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K).
- Nitrogen = promotion of leaf growth  
Phosphorus = essential for transferring energy between parts of plants  
Potassium = promotion of root development and stress tolerance

## WHEN TO FERTILIZE:

- Annuals: **Miracle Gro** every two weeks
- Vegetables: **Espoma Tomato-tone** every two weeks
- Roses: **Espoma Rose-tone** every six to eight weeks starting in April
- Evergreens: **Espoma Holly-tone** the following season after planting, once in the spring and once in the fall
- Shade & Flowering Trees: **Espoma Tree-tone** the following season after planting, once in the spring and once in the fall
- Flowering Shrubs and Perennials: **Espoma Plant-tone** the following season after planting

## HOW TO FERTILIZE:

- Trees and Shrubs: apply fertilizer to the root zone area (*see graphic below*)
- Perennials: mix fertilizer into surrounding soil and between rows
- Annuals: Spread granular fertilizers over the soil around the plants and mix in lightly

