



Get Bossy with your **Flowering Bulbs**

2025 Northwest Flower & Garden Festival

Thank you for joining our bulb presentation at the 2025 Northwest Flower and Garden Festival! We hope you enjoyed it and learned more about the fun of getting bossy with your bulbs!

As with anything, there is always more to learn beyond the “basics” and we’re excited for you to continue on your gardening journey! Below are a few notes from our DIY Stage presentation and other information we thought would be helpful. You can always reach out to us at the contact info listed on the back page. Good luck and happy gardening!

~ Sean and Allison McManus, Spoken Garden

5 types of Bulbs	
True Bulbs	Daffodils, Tulips, Alliums
Corms	Gladiolus, Crocosmia, Crocus, Anemones
Tuberous Roots	Dahlias, Tuberous Begonias
Tubers	Colocasia, Potato, Oxalis
Rhizomes	Iris, Canna Lilies

Reasons to be Bossy and Divide Bulbs

- 1) To maintain the health and vigor of your individual bulb to help them have better spacing above and below ground, etc.
- 2) To maintain the health and vigor of a grouping of bulbs and so they flower year after year.
- 3) To increase your amount of bulbs and spread them around to other areas of your garden.

Forcing Gladiolus or Dahlias to Bloom Early

- 1) Determine your first frost-free date.
- 2) Place bulbs (planted or stored) in 65–70° F temps for 3–5 weeks and check weekly.
- 3) After threat of frost has passed and bulbs have top growth and root growth, plant outdoors in containers or ground beds.



Forecasted Frost Dates for Surrounding Area

Tacoma – 1st frost-free date: 3/17

Bremerton – 1st frost-free date: 4/7

Seattle – 1st frost-free date: 3/21

Olympia – 1st frost-free date: 3/19

Kent – 1st frost-free date: 3/29

Vancouver, WA – 1st frost-free date: 3/29

Yakima – 1st frost-free date: 5/15

Spokane – 1st frost-free date: 5/1

Great Bulbs for Successive Planting in PNW

- Gladiolus
- Daffodils
- Tulips
- Dahlias
- Freesia
- Irises
- Ranunculus
- Anemones (*Anemone blanda*)



Other Ways to be Bossy:

- 1) Various Fertilizing methods
- 2) Prolong flowering
- 3) Pinching

Thank you!

Where to Connect with Us:

Sean and Allison McManus

Owners of Spoken Garden, Authors, Garden content creators, YouTubers, Garden tool co-inventors

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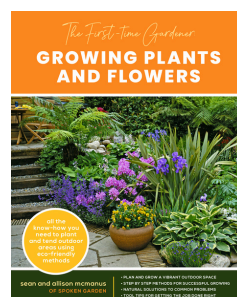
Dibby Tools: Sold on Etsy and Amazon

Book: "The First-time Gardener: Growing Plants and Flowers," *Cool Springs Press, 2021*



Scan me

Ease your seed sowing this year!
Head to our Etsy Shop and pick out
your favorite color Dibby tool!



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