

MEL'S

where home and garden come together

HOW TO HAVE BEAUTIFUL FLOWER BEDS

FERTILIZER

- *Apply steer manure or mulch to beds twice per year
- *Use fish emulsion, Miracle Grow or time release fertilizer in containers, following label directions

WATER

- *Mulch flower beds to help conserve water
- *Choose drought tolerant plants
- *Water new plants more than established ones
- *Build moats around plants to keep water over the roots
- *Water hanging baskets & small pots at least once a day

PRUNING

- *Prune off old flowers to promote new flowers
- *Do major clean up pruning in the spring
- *Leave seed heads on in the fall to attract birds

BUGS

- *Encourage birds with plantings and or feeders
- *Use the mildest possible insect control
- *Learn to live with a few bugs-many insects are beneficial

ENJOY

- *Have a glass of wine and tour your garden each evening
- *Take time to smell the roses
- *Get up at dawn and enjoy the way the light falls on your garden (Then go back to bed!)
- *Lay on the ground for a bug's eye view of the world
- *Take a bouquet from your garden to work each week