



**Winter is coming... remember to water until frost so your plants don't heave!**

Frost can heave the newly planted plants out of the ground if, for example, the pot soil is very different than the garden soil and the plant roots have not had a chance to grow in yet. Be sure to keep watering your plants until the first signs of frost to give them their best chance for survival until spring.



**Let it bee**

Don't clean up your garden too much. Pollinators need some of the things we may consider "messy" – old stems for the solitary bees to nest in, dried flower heads with seeds for the birds to eat, the pulpy remains of the plant touched by frost. Don't worry, the roots are growing even when frost has pulped the exposed parts of your plants.



**Beware of neonicotinoids**

If you're buying an end-of-the season sale plant at a nursery, don't forget to check if it's been treated with neonics. Because these are systemic pesticides, they will still emerge in the flowers next season although perhaps in diminished levels. In early spring, it's harmful to expose hungry queen bumble bees to a dose of neonics with their pollen and nectar. If in doubt about neonicotinoid treatments in the plant, don't buy it!

