

[Green Sky Sustainable Design](#) would like to offer a few spring gardening tips and keep you up to date on some of our latest projects.

Spring by definition: “jumping up suddenly” is beginning her show. The crocus and daffodils are starting to emerge. The apricot tree is appearing in its glorious pink bloom. We are starting to wake up, to spring from the sleep of winter. So what can I do now, you might ask?

- **Plan.** Do you have spaces that are calling for some attention, that you’ve been wanting do something with for awhile, or a garden that is just waiting for the new crop?
- **Prune** perennial stems from last summer’s bloomers as well as Crape Myrtles/[Lagerstroemia indica](#), Butterfly Bushes/[Buddleia davidii](#), Flowering Dogwoods/[Cornus florida](#) and Redbuds/[cercis canadensis](#) to name a few.
- **Prepare.** Top-dress beds with good local compost. If you have been collecting and composting leaves, now is the time to utilize that great source of nutrition.
- **Plant** a cool season vegetable garden with spinach, lettuce, onion, radishes, kale, peas, and arugula. If you don’t have a vegetable garden, let’s talk! They are great for decreasing you carbon footprint and wonderful for what ails you. Our local cooperative extension agents ([Growing Small Farms](#)) have lots of information on when and what to plant.

I taught the Living Roofs and Rain Garden’s short course at Chatham County Community College this winter. The class installed an extensive green roof on a cedar gazebo built by [Green Door Design Build](#) for [Powell Place Park](#). Go check it out. They did a great job.

Green Sky will be installing another green roof in Durham to be used as a moon gazing, kitchen garden, picnic area (no ants) late spring/early summer.

I recently had the good fortune to attend the [Toby Hemenway](#) lecture at Duke. Toby is a well know teacher/ lecturer on permaculture and ecological design – both important principles I use in my landscape designs. Why? Because it makes sense to consider all aspects of the environment including: people, buildings, animals, birds, insects, etc. The whole picture.

Call us at **919-943-7503** for an appointment to talk about your landscape or green (vegetative) roof needs. And thanks for continuing to support your local economy and the healing of the earth.

Rhonda