

# Ebert's Greenhouse Village

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## Ebert's Essentials

The first step to a beautiful flower bed and landscape is creating a strong foundation and favorable environment for the flowers and plants.

Ebert's will be carrying the essentials of soil mixes and amendments, mulches, fertilizers, and pest/disease control products this year to assist you, the gardener, in laying the groundwork for healthy, robust plants. Fafard soil mixes are rated #1 with Ebert's!

**Fafard Container Mix:** A mixture of perlite, vermiculite and pulverized bark. Use this special mix when planting your own containers and baskets. It's much superior to regular potting soil.

**Fafard Complete Planting Mix:** Composed of top soil, manure, and peat moss. This mix is used for bedding plants and is great when planting trees and shrubs.

**Mushroom Compost:** It is the top layer of organic "soil" which is used to grow mushrooms that has been combined with other organic materials. Use in planting trees, perennials, and annuals to create a nutrient rich environment for plants to grow in.

**Organic Compost:** A combination of kelp and chicken manure. Use in the same manner as mushroom compost.

### Planting in the flower beds:

- Before any plant or flower is planted, the soil should be cultivated very thoroughly so the ground is very loose.
- It is a good practice to add soil supplements (mushroom compost, cow compost, organic compost, or Fafard planting mix) to enrich the soil.
- If soil is hard and clay-like, peat moss should be added to aerate and loosen the soil. Peat Moss should also be incorporated into fast-draining, sandy soils as it will help retain moisture.
- Plant and water thoroughly (if roots are pot bound, break up the root ball at the bottom so they will start growing faster and reach for moisture) It is a good practice to use root stimulator. This will promote the growth of the roots right away which will ensure a much healthier plant.

- Mulch the beds that were planted. They not only will look much nicer, it will keep the moisture in the ground which will help the plants.
- Use ½" of cocoa bean mulch for annual flowers and perennials
- Use 2-3 inches of hardwood mulch (Cypress, Western Red Cedar) for trees & shrubs.
- Fertilize plants every 2 weeks for a gorgeous garden and flower bed.