

The Minor, But Important, Spring Flowering Bulbs

Under no circumstances should this group of bulbs be considered minor just because they produce their best “show” when planted in large numbers. The many different types available, the sequence of bloom (if properly selected) from March through July and their ability to multiply and spread without special care make minor bulbs a welcome addition in any landscape.

Like many of the traditional major spring bulbs, small bulbs have many uses - border, bedding, naturalizing, accent, rock gardens and containers.

The following minor bulbs are all extremely adaptable to Long Island's growing conditions and should be readily available for purchase in retail garden centers or mail order catalogs for fall planting.

MINOR BULB	TIME OF BLOOM	HEIGHT (inches)	COLOR	DEPTH OF PLANTING (inches)	SPACING BETWEEN BULBS
Allium giganteum		40-48	lavender	6	6"
Allium (shorter species)		6-20	violet, yellow, pink	4	2-3"
Anemone blanda	April	4-6	white, pink, blue	2-3	4"
Camassia	May	18-36	blue, white	5-6	6-8"
Chionodoxa (glory-of-the-snow)	March-April	3-6	white-lavender, white	3-4	2-3"
Crocus sp.	March-April	3-6	yellow, violet, white, purple, striped	4	3"
Endymion (Scilla) hispanicus	May-E.June	10-15	blue, pink, white	4	5-6"
Eranthis (Winter Aconite)	Feb.-March	4	yellow	2	3"
Erythronium (trout lily)	Mar.-April	6-12	violet, pink, spotted, mottled	3	3"
Fritillaria imperialis	L.April-May	24-36	red, yellow, orange	6-8	8-12"
Fritillaria meleagris	April-May	9	white, purple, reddish-brown	3	3-4"
Galanthus (Snowdrop)	Feb.-March	4-6	white	3	3"
Galtonia (Summer Hyacinth)	July-Aug.	30-40	white	6	12"
Iris danfordiae	March	4-6	yellow	3-4	2-4"
Iris reticulata	March	4-6	purple, blue	3-4	2-4"
Leucojum aestivum	L.Apr.-May	12-15	white	3	3"
Lycoris (Hardy Amaryllis)	Aug.	24-30	pink	4	4-6"
Muscari sp. (grape hyacinth)	Mar.-April	6-10	blue, white	3	3"
Ornithogalum umbellatum (Star of Bethlehem)	Do not plant – invasive				
Puschkinia	April	6	blue	3	3"
Scilla	mid.Mar.-mid Apr.	4-6	blue, white	3	3"
Zephyranthes candida	June-July	8-10	white	3-4	2-3"