Native Here Nursery: Bulb Instructions

• All bulbs are planted in orange pots.

• Most bulbs should not be divided or planted out until dormant. Keep them in their pots until all foliage has completely died back.
• Water sparingly, once a week is generally sufficient. Stop watering when they start blooming or the leaves are starting to die back.
• Sift/dig up/separate bulbs when completely dormant. Store in cool, dry, well ventilated place and re-plant before rains start, around Sept. /October.
• Very small bulbs can be re-planted in the same pot to let them grow up for another year. Top with a pinch of bulb fertilizer.
• Exceptions: *Toxicoscordion* and *Chlorogalum* have more robust root systems and can be carefully divided any time.

• All our bulbs are Summer dormant and should not receive any Summer water.
• Bulbs planted in the ground do not need supplemental water unless there is severe drought, or any additional fertilizer. *Calochortus* sp. are especially susceptible to rot.

• Bulbs may need protection from gophers (underground wire cages), mice, squirrels, other rodents and some birds (above ground cages), snails and slugs (copper strips, oyster shells, Sluggo™ type bait)
• *Toxicoscordion* bulbs are toxic to most critters, but snails and slugs love the foliage.

• Bulbs require good drainage - amend soil (perlite, expanded shale etc), plant on slope or raised bed/mound

• For easier protection from pests, good drainage and water control it may be best to grow bulbs in containers. Containers should be at least 10 - 12" deep. Commercial potting mix (not soil) works well as growing medium, preferably without added fertilizer (too much nitrogen). A small amount of bulb fertilizer (generous pinch) should be added once a year to each gal pot.

• Our homemade bulb mix:
  2 parts perlite, 2 parts vermiculite, 1 part peat (cocoa peat or coir is OK), 1 part sand. Add a pinch (~1/4 tsp) of bulb fertilizer per 1 gal pot.