European Road Trip Reveals Housing Sectors United by Strife

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Every garden should have a cheerful display of daffodils and now’s the time to plant not only daffs but all spring bulbs.

In my garden, the blooming of the first daffodil, a miniature ‘Mrs R O Bentley’, was a joyful event. Daffodils are usually among the first flowers to appear in spring, and their arrival can lift the spirits of even the most jaded gardener.

Daffodils are not only beautiful, but they also bring joy and cheer to any garden. They are easy to grow, and they bloom for several weeks, providing a lovely addition to any garden. Daffodils are hardy and can survive in most garden conditions, making them a popular choice for gardeners.

Here are some tips for growing daffodils:

1. Choose the right variety: There are many different varieties of daffodils, each with its own unique characteristics. Choose a variety that will suit your garden’s conditions and your personal preferences.
2. Plant at the right time: Daffodils should be planted in the fall, between September and November. This gives them enough time to establish themselves before the cold weather arrives.
3. Space the bulbs correctly: Daffodils should be planted 12-15 cm apart. This allows the bulbs enough space to grow and bloom properly.
4. Provide good soil: Daffodils prefer well-drained, fertile soil with a pH between 6.5 and 7.5. Make sure your soil is rich in organic matter and Amend heavy clay soil with compost to improve drainage.
5. Water regularly: Daffodils need regular water during the growing season. Water them deeply once a week, especially during dry spells.
6. Mulch: Mulching helps retain moisture and suppress weeds. Use organic mulches like straw, compost, or leafmold around the base of the plants.
7. Fertilize: Daffodils benefit from a balanced fertilizer high in phosphorus, such as 5-10-5, applied before planting or in early spring.
8. Deadhead: Deadhead spent flowers to prolong the blooming season and encourage new growth.
9. Divide and replant: Daffodils should be divided and replanted every 3-5 years to keep them healthy and blooming well.
10. Store bulbs properly: Once the foliage has died back, dig up the bulbs and store them in a cool, dry place until planting time.

With these tips in mind, you can enjoy a beautiful display of daffodils in your garden. So get planting and bring some joy and color to your garden this spring.

Jane P. Widegren, PGD, RGN

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European road trip reveals housing sectors united by strife

Recently, I undertook a 6,000 km road trip that took me from England to Croatia, via Slovenia and Austria. I wanted to visit some of the most conflict-ridden areas in Europe and see how housing policies are affecting people in these regions.

In Slovenia, the situation is complex. There is a high degree of social segregation, with wealthier areas having better housing conditions than poorer areas. Rent controls have been in place since the 1990s, and the government has implemented policies to reduce housing costs, such as rent ceilings and subsidies for low-income households.

In Austria, the housing market is strong, with high demand and limited supply. There is a high degree of social segregation, with wealthier areas having better housing conditions than poorer areas. Rent controls have been in place since the 1990s, and the government has implemented policies to reduce housing costs, such as rent ceilings and subsidies for low-income households.

In Croatia, the housing market is also strong, with high demand and limited supply. There is a high degree of social segregation, with wealthier areas having better housing conditions than poorer areas. Rent controls have been in place since the 1990s, and the government has implemented policies to reduce housing costs, such as rent ceilings and subsidies for low-income households.

Overall, the European housing sector is facing similar challenges across the continent, with high demand and limited supply, and social segregation being a common thread. However, the solutions being implemented vary from country to country, and the effectiveness of these solutions is still being debated.

As I mentioned last week, the financial crisis has led to a decrease in housing demand and supply across the EU. However, the situation is still challenging, with many countries facing difficulties in meeting the needs of their citizens.

The European Commission has announced plans to increase the supply of affordable housing, but it remains to be seen whether these plans will be effective in the long term. The housing sector is complex, and solutions to the challenges it faces require a multi-faceted approach.