Bulb Planting & Care from Bob Lilly

If you bought a lot of bulbs, plant narcissus first, then all the minor bulbs, and tulips last, all two weeks before Thanksgiving. This gives them plenty of time to root out before it freezes (especially in pots)

Water all bulbs in well-once is usually enough.

Fertilizing should be done in the spring when tulips are up 1" to 2." Fertilize all your bulbs then with 5/10/10 (bulb food or vegetable food). If you use an organic fertilizer, use lots.

Crocus will be dug up and moved by squirrels. You can reduce this by planting, watering well and covering with wood, like shingles, weighing them down until they root-when they are less likely to be dug up (they smell different).

Tulips in pots should be planted 1/2 the depth of the pot with the flat side of the bulb toward the edge. This is the side the first leaf unfurls from.

Most minor bulbs and tulips will need slug bait in early spring.

Let all bulb foliage die down to yellow or brown if you want results next year. Don't let bulbs go to seed-remove spent flowers and seed pods but NOT the stems.