



Welcome to my weekly series!  
**ASK THE LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL**

Linda K. Lillie of Sprigs & Twigs

**SPRIGS & TWIGS HAS BEEN DESIGNATED AN ESSENTIAL BUSINESS AND WE ARE OPEN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH CT GOVERNOR NED LAMONT'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 7H, DATED MARCH 20, 2020.**

Hi Linda - I found these in our flower garden. They were half exposed so I pulled them up on top of the ground. The day I did this there were just five oval bulb-like things. Next day, the bottom one grew a whitish stem about 3 inches long with a strange top to it. I don't know what to make of these things. Are they some kind of mushroom/fungi? - Vinny



Hi Vinny,

From your photo, it looks like a type of fungal fruiting body usually called earth balls which are related to puffball fungi. They are not harmful to the plants near them. They are mycorrhizal which means they live symbiotically with the surrounding tree roots. The tree roots and earth balls share nutrients and water that benefit both. The earth balls produce an abundance of spores of various colors that are spread by animals digging them up. So, the bottom line is they are a good thing to have growing in your soil.

Thank you.



EMAIL OR MAIL YOUR QUESTIONS TO:  
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