

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for May

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- PHOTOGRAPH your landscape and study the photos to reveal spots that may need added attention.
- DRAPE vigorous climbing clematis on arbors, walls, fences, and trellises for beautiful blooms spring through fall.
- FRESHEN the air in your interiors with a potted anthurium. Besides sucking up harmful VOCs, houseplants have been proven to increase concentration, productivity, and boost well-being.
- BANISH insecticides from your garden to protect our pollinators and birds. The calamity of the bee colony collapse is still puzzling scientists but while researches investigate the cause of this jeopardy, we can do our part to help honeybees survive.
- RAISE the mowing height of your lawn mower and remove the bag at least twice a month allowing the cut grass to feed the roots.
- RAKE your soil to remove debris and lift the matted leaves.
- WEED, weed, weed! Any and all weeds are sapping the moisture and nutrients from your other plants. Get rid of them swiftly.
- WATCH for baby squirrels scampering on fences and trees. Their playful antics are entertaining. (As long as they aren't munching on your veggies!)



Romantic Clematis surprises perennially with its rich, luscious dinner plate size flowers.

- GATHER nasturtium blossoms along with mustard greens and kale to spice up your salads for peppery flavors and bright colors.

SPRING GARDEN/NATURE EVENTS NOT TO BE MISSED

- PARTY at the Mother's Day Soiree on May 10 and 11 at Annie's Garden in Richmond with over 2.5 acres of rare native varieties found nowhere else. <http://www.anniesannuals.com>.
- PICK up your free bag of potpourri at the Be the Star You Are!® 501 c3 charity booth at the Moraga Faire in Rheem from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 10. Meet a few of Lamorinda Weekly's Teen Scene writers.
- THANKS to all the Lamorinda Weekly readers who came to meet and chat with me at the Earth Day and Wildlife Festival. Keep on growing!

Celebrate the givers of life this May. Hurray for moms and Mother Nature.



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KEEPING TREES HEALTHY

Generally speaking, trees don't need us to grow. But they need our help to stay healthy and safe. Having your trees checked by an ISA arborist on a regular basis is a wise choice. As a professional we may be able to see the dangers that lurk ahead and can solve them before they can become a bigger problem or even dangerous.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by your local ISA Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service and Landscaping for all your tree care needs.

Advance Tree Service

Your Authority on Trees and Landscape.



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