

Digging Deep - Gardening with Cynthia Brian

Why We Garden, Part 2

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Spirituality

We don't have to be religious to be spiritual. The greatest cathedral in the world cannot match the temple of Mother Nature. I am forever in awe and wonder at the miracle of our natural world. When I am in the garden I feel as one with all living creatures. I understand that we are all connected – the rocks, the water, the plants, the sky, the animals. We are all living, breathing, magical creations united in a giant prayer of glory.

Mistakes

Perhaps one of the most important lessons from the garden is that there are no mistakes. Failure is fertilizer. We heap our failures on the compost pile to grow a new garden. Gardens give us permission to be human, to make mistakes and to grow stronger and smarter from our errors. Life is never quiet or dull, and everything is a blessing and a lesson in the garden.

May you discover love in the garden and appreciate the spontaneity and generosity that nature offers.

Happy gardening, happy growing.

Cynthia Brian's Mid-Month Reminders

- **PURCHASE** summer bulbs of your choice, but don't be tempted to plant until the ground warms.
- **AERATE** lawns while the ground is wet to allow for moisture to sink to the roots.
- **FERTILIZE** citrus (specifically our beloved Meyer lemons) by the end of the month.
- **PLANT** bare root roses and bare root fruit trees through the end of February. Many are now on sale so make sure to check the plant carefully for damage or dryness before purchasing. Prune back any damaged or dry roots. Soak in water for at least a day before planting.
- **SHARPEN** tools in preparation for spring.
- **CONTINUE** to pick up or rake fallen camellia blooms to keep your bush healthy.



A bed of Italian kale.

Cynthia Brian in the February vegetable garden.



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I am available as a speaker, designer, and consultant.



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ISA arborists Darren and Lew Edwards

Utility Right-of Way

Pruning for utility line clearance does not always follow desirable pruning techniques in regards to appearance and health of the tree. In this situation, the needs of the utility right-of-way take priority over the tree.

When you have a tree under a power line that requires frequent reduction by the utility co. it's important to have proper pruning before, or have the tree removed, and plant a tree with the criteria (i.e. size and placement) that should be determined by an arborist, so that a tree's health and appearance will never be compromised by the need for utility pruning. So don't wait until it's too late, call your local ISA Arborist at Advance Tree Service and Landscaping to help you determine your choice for the perfect tree.

Advance Tree Service

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