

## Cynthia Brian's Mid-Month Gardening Tips for September

**PLACE** bird feeders in a natural area, specifically hanging from trees, and away from the house to deter rodents from establishing residence in your home.

**PICK** tomatoes to enjoy in these last two weeks of summer brilliance. According to the USDA, there are over 25,000 varieties of tomatoes.

**GOT CLOVER?** Clover is a positive plant in the garden and lawn because it grabs oxygen from the air and stores it in the soil. Birds pecking at your lawn are not eating it. They are dining on insects that could be harmful to your lawn. The birds are your friends indicating that your lawn has an invader.

**EAT** watermelon when it's warm. Watermelon is actually a vegetable, not a fruit, filled with 92 percent water. Time to make a watermelon popsicle. (The popsicle was invented in 1905 ... quite tasty history.)

**DOWNLOAD** a free pollinator guide for the United States and Canada at <http://www.pollinator.org/guides.htm>. For the Lamorinda area, click on "California Dry Steppe".

**MARK** your calendars for the Sept. 26 Pear and Wine Festival in Moraga. Stop by the Be the Star You Are booth for free seeds and other giveaways including a complimentary brand new book as part of the literacy outreach project, "Read, Lead, Succeed!" [http://starstyleradio.net/Events/Entries/2015/9/26\\_Pear\\_%26\\_Wine\\_Festival\\_2015.html](http://starstyleradio.net/Events/Entries/2015/9/26_Pear_%26_Wine_Festival_2015.html)

**BUY** tulips, hyacinths, and crocus to refrigerate for six weeks before planting.

**REGISTER** your pollinator garden, large or small, or even a container that provides pollen and nectar to bees, butterflies, bats, flies and more at [www.millionpollinatorgardens.org](http://www.millionpollinatorgardens.org).

**RAKE** fallen leaves to add to your compost pile along with your lawn clippings.



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

Tune into Cynthia's Radio show at [www.StarStyleRadio.net](http://www.StarStyleRadio.net)

*Cynthia Brian in a  
drought-friendly rock  
creek.*

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