

Cynthia Brian's Fresh Ideas for July

MULCH before the heat of summer begins. If you can use an entire truck-load of wood chips, tree service companies are happy to give you free chips. Mulching keeps the soil cooler while decreasing the weed population.

COMBINE arugula, mint, and sage in a food processor with a splash of olive oil and pepper for a mouth watering variation on traditional pesto. Add the grated cheese of your choice to use over pastas, in soups, or whirled in an omelet.

HYDRATE yourself with fruits from the garden including watermelon, peaches, cucumbers, tomatoes, strawberries, and corn. A slice of watermelon provides you with at least ten ounces of water while a medium peach will give you five ounces of water.

RELIEVE anxiety and stress by cutting a bouquet of lavender, then crushing the flowers in your palms. Inhale the healing fragrance before bed for a restful slumber.

WATCH for snakes! Gopher snakes and King snakes have been slithering through my grass. Don't be alarmed, snakes eradicate rodents including gophers, moles, rats and mice.

SHOWCASE your horticultural talents by mixing textures, colors, and sizes in your garden, always being aware of water, sunlight and soil Ph. needs. A lemon-lime nandina paired with a black adder phormium and a purple salvia are spectacular bedmates.

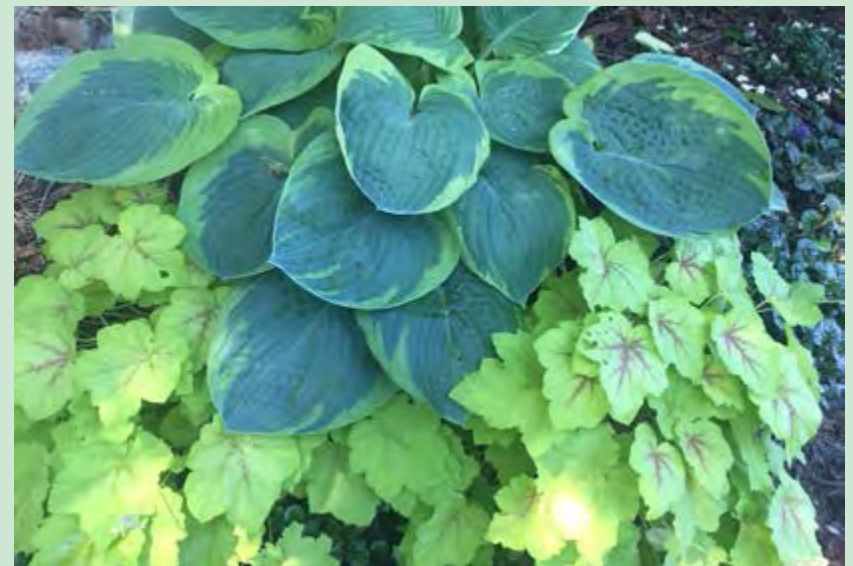


Wood chips make great mulch and tree companies offer wood chips for free when you take a truck load!
Photos Cynthia Brian

PEPPER your garden by throwing seeds of Love in a Mist and California poppies. The colors look smashing together and both reseed. Plus Love in a Mist seedpods make fantastic dried flowers.

WANT a lush landscape? Embrace the beauty of leaves. Foliage plants have dramatic impact, especially when grouped together. Hosta, heuchera, coleus, and variegated plants are showstoppers, specifically in shaded areas.

PLANT gladioli bulbs for summer drama with long stalks of trumpet shaped florets that are considered hummingbird heaven.





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*Your friendly neighborhood
arborists Darren and Lew Edwards*

Who doesn't hear the words "summer" and "bugs" and think of a neat line of ants getting ready to trespass on plaid blanket supporting a picnic basket full of delicacies. But pests can be a serious summer problem, and can threaten more than your turkey sandwich and potato salad. Left unchecked, these summer invaders can quickly turn your tree and landscape assets into liabilities. That's why insect and disease management is such an important part of summer tree care. A keen eye is essential, and proactive monitoring goes a long way towards early detection.

So don't wait until it's too late, have a complete inspection by a Certified Arborist at Advance Tree Service.

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