

DESIGN  
INSTALLATION  
IRRIGATION  
DRAINAGE  
STONWORK  
CONCRETE WORK  
DECKS  
FENCES  
PATIOS  
LAWNS  
PONDS  
CLEANUP &  
HAULING

**BLUE RIDGE**



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**LANDSCAPE COMPANY INC.**  
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OWNER/OPERATOR  
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LICENSED  
INSURED  
Lic# 818633



## Monthly Tips:

**KEEP** fruited plants evenly moist to avoid blossom end rot.

**PRE-ORDER** new garlic varieties for a September delivery. Four new ones that are offered by Sow True Seed ([www.sowtrueseed.com](http://www.sowtrueseed.com)) include Early Red Italian, Red Russian, Georgian Fire and Majestic. Everything tastes better with garlic.

**DRY** herbs and flowers during the summer to use for infusions into homemade cosmetics, shampoo, steams and masks.

**EAT** the tendrils of peas. Stir-fry or eat raw. Many unexpected veggie greens are edible, including turnip, radish and beets. Never eat the leaves of rhubarb as they are poisonous.

**PINCH** back annuals for a fuller display all summer.

**EMPTY** any vessel holding water, even as small as a bottle cap to prevent mosquito larvae from breeding. Change birdbaths daily or add Dunks to non-moving water.

**DEEP** soak trees like magnolia or redwoods, especially when you see them dropping abundant leaves.

**CHECK** outdoor pots and containers daily for moisture level. Pots dry out very quickly in this hot weather.

**SNIP** the tops of your herbs as they flower to use in your salads and sauces.

**SKEWER** vegetables and fruits from your garden to barbecue on your grill. Toss the items in a bowl with olive oil, lemon, and herbs, refrigerate overnight, skewer, grill and enjoy. I use peppers, melons, plums, apples, radishes, zucchini, tomatoes and mushrooms.

**ADD** pea gravel to paths for easy walking and to prevent mud runoffs in the winter.

**CONTACT** Vector Control if you have a mosquito, skunk or yellow jacket problem. The phone number is (925) 685-9301.

**HANG** yellow jacket traps **ONLY** on days that you are having a picnic or outdoor event. If you have traps always engaged, you will attract more yellow jackets.

Happy Gardening! Happy Growing!

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Cynthia Brian

The Goddess Gardener

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Tune into Cynthia's Radio show at

[www.StarStyleRadio.net](http://www.StarStyleRadio.net)

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



Cynthia Brian with sunflowers by a summer water feature for pollinators.



## SERVE on an Agricultural Task Force

Interested in preserving and promoting agriculture in Contra Costa County where the value of crops rose 7 percent? The Contra Costa Board of Supervisors is seeking individuals who are interested in serving on the County's Agricultural Advisory Task Force. Meetings take place in Knightsen. Application forms can be obtained at [www.co.contra-costa.ca.us](http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us) or by telephoning the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors (925) 335-1900. Applications are due no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, August 12 to the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, Room 106, County Administration Building, 651 Pine Street, Martinez, CA 94553. For more in depth intel, contact Chad Godoy, agricultural commissioner and director of Weights & Measures, at [chad.godoy@ag.cccounty.us](mailto:chad.godoy@ag.cccounty.us) or (925) 646-5250.