

Cynthia Brian's Mid-month Gardening Guide

- **WATER** deeply and less frequently. As summer approaches our gardens will be thirstier. By watering deeply, you encourage strong roots. If you want to use a hose and sprinkler, buy a water timer that can be attached to a hose bib. Price is only about \$23-\$30 and will save you time, money and waste.
- **GROW** roses on your patio or deck in containers where you have plenty of sunlight. Use high quality soil and tree rose of your choosing for blooms and beauty all season long. Cover a mailbox with a climbing rose to increase your curb appeal.
- **SNIP** the tops off mint to enjoy in multiple refreshing uses including salads and mojitos.
- **SPREAD** the seeds of Love in a Mist after they have finished blooming. The seed pods can be crushed and shaken in areas where you want more flowers next year.
- **PRIVACY** screens are all the rage in neighborhoods. Prune privets to a height and width you want for a quick green fence or plant clumping bamboo. (This bamboo does not get out of control or tear up your concrete)
- **GIVE** the gift of living plant to your graduate. With care, a plant will be a constant reminder of your ongoing love.
- **CELEBRATE** Dad on Father's Day. A well-made tool or herbs for his barbecue marinades could be right up his alley.
- **WATCH** for mosquito larvae in birdbaths and other still water. Empty water from all containers or add animal safe Dunks.
- **WIN** \$50,000 for your Garden: As a judge in America's Best Gardener Contest, I encourage you to enter your best garden photo. The top prize is \$50,000. Wish I could enter! www.americasbestgardener.com
- Harvest what's ripe and ready:
 - Mulberries (you may have to battle the birds)
 - Cherries (Ditto to above)
 - Wild Plums
 - Nectarines,
 - Kale
 - Mints

Enjoy our final days of spring. Summer sun and fun is quickly approaching. Congratulations to all of our graduates and a very Happy Father's Day to all the great daddies. Kudos to you all.

Happy Gardening and Happy Growing!



The lacy blue, white, or pink florets of Love in a Mist are great as garden fillers.

Photos Cynthia Brian



Adding a cascading pink Bonica rose over a mailbox increases curb appeal.