

## Cynthia Brian's Mid-Month Gardening Guide for May

**CHECK** irrigation system for leaks or broken heads. Make sure to test your lawn sprinklers, which could be buried by newly growing grass.

**WATER** lawns infrequently yet deeply to maintain green space.

**BEE CAREFUL** as bees are busy pollinating.

**WATCH** out for gophers, moles, voles and other burrowing pests.

**AERATE** your lawn allowing oxygen and water to penetrate roots.

**CONTINUE** to collect and discard fallen camellia blooms until your bush or tree has stopped blooming.

**BAIT** for snails and slugs.

**INHALE** the sweet scents of jasmine and roses in full bloom.

**EMPTY** the water from all containers. Change birdbaths often to keep mosquito larvae from developing.

**PRESCRIBE** parks instead of pills. Get outside every day in nature.

**PLANT** deer resistant bearded iris rhizomes in sunny spots for perennial flowering in spring and fall. They will multiply to allow you to divide and replant elsewhere,

**COLLECT** dandelion leaves daily from your pesticide-free lawn or garden to add tang to salads and soups.

**ADD** waterwise succulents to your garden environment.

**SPRAY** crape myrtles and roses for mildew.

Thank you to everyone who sent comments and compliments about my article on Firescaping. I am happy it is beneficial. If you missed it, you can read it at [www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1305/Digging-Deep-with-Cynthia-Brian-for-May-FireScaping.html](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1305/Digging-Deep-with-Cynthia-Brian-for-May-FireScaping.html)

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



A hillside of purple bearded iris and California poppies.

Photos Cynthia Brian



Camellias and Chinese fringe set a colorful stage.