

## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for June

Photos Cynthia Brian



**Buy seedlings of lettuce and tomatoes for swifter growing.**

**PLANT** tomatoes, peppers, lettuces, eggplants, arugula, cucumbers, beans, corn and pumpkins. Herbs to plant now for summer harvesting are basil, parsley and cilantro.

**STAKE** or provide a wire cage to support tomatoes so the fruit won't touch the soil and rot.

**APPLY** snail bait to newly planted seedlings and wherever you witness slugs or snails.

**FERTILIZE** trees, shrubs, and ground covers before the summer heat.

**SPRAY** crape myrtles to prevent powdery mildew with a natural fungicide such as neem oil extract, jojoba oil, or potassium bicarbonate.

**CHECK** irrigation systems and readjust sprinkler heads as needed.

**TACKLE** aphids with ladybugs or for a small infestation, spray with a mixture of water and dish detergent.

**CUT** dead canes of hydrangeas to the ground (anything without a green bud on it). Don't prune hydrangeas in spring or fall or the flowering buds will be cut off.

**BUY** a shorter variety or move a too tall hydrangea as they cannot be pruned to reduce height. Hydrangeas always replace their height. If a hydrangea is drooping on a hot day, it doesn't need water. It will rebound as the evening cools. Hydrangeas grow great in containers.

**ADD** Sulphur or aluminum sulfate to acidic soil to get blue hydrangeas. Rusty nails or copper do not work.

**TREAT** both upper and lower leaves of roses with organic Sulphur for fungus problems including black spot, rust and powdery mildew.

**PRUNE** azaleas immediately after spring flowering.

**PULL** out the dried fronds of spring bulbs. If a bulb comes out with the leaves, cut off the dried foliage and either replant the bulb in a new place immediately or put in a dark, cool space to replant in the fall.

**CELEBRATE** your gardening dad on Father's Day by buying a copy of "Growing with the Goddess Gardener" or "Chicken Soup for the Gardener's Soul" at <https://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store>.

**CARE** for your lawn by raking leaves, twigs and dead grass. Pull the weeds including dandelions, chickweed, bittercress and henbit. Aerate and leave the



**Potato vine and purple trumpet vine are happy companions.**

plugs on the grass. Cover bare patches by over-seeding with Pearl's Premium grass seed. Visit [www.Pearlspremium.com](http://www.Pearlspremium.com)

Water early in the morning and fertilize once more before the heat of summer. When mowing, never cut off more than 1/3 and leave grass clippings on the lawn at least every two times you mow.

**HARVEST** cherries, lemons, tangelos, loquats and tangerines.

**FEED** your family and friends in body, mind, and spirit by planting a Victory Garden 3.0.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing. Happy Father's Day.



**Tomatoes can be planted in large pots or even buckets. Add basil for extra flavor.**



**A raised bed filled with cabbages, arugula, and Brussel sprouts.**