

Cynthia Brian's June Digging Deep Gardening Tips

EMPTY vessels of water to eliminate mosquito larvae from hatching. Add DUNKS or a few drops of bleach to any standing water such as a bird bath or non-recirculating fountain. Do not add bleach where fish or frogs reside.

ADD brilliance to your porch or patio with containers filled with petunias, geraniums, or other summer bloomers.

CUT all grasses surrounding your home to three inches or less and remove junk and debris from the perimeter to create a defensible space from fires.

MAKE a rich potting mix by mixing equal parts of good soil, compost and sand. Add leaf matter and liquid fertilizer.

NET your fruit trees or pick the fruit early to prevent hungry birds from devouring your summer crops of cherries, peaches, apricots and apples.

CELEBRATE the summer solstice by creating an upscale, yet casual table arrangement with a variety of roses.

PLANT a passionflower vine to climb a pole for a fascinating futuristic flowering showstopper.

DEEP SOAK any trees with wilting, drooping, or dropping leaves. If you have magnolias, the large creamy white flowers dazzle after a deep soak.

ATTRACT butterflies and honeybees by planting nectar-rich specimens including zinnias, butterfly bush, and scarlet runner beans.

SUPPORT your sprouting tomatoes with wire cages or teepees to prevent them from toppling over to sprawling on the ground. The fruit will rot when in contact with soil.



The leaves of potatoes resemble tomato plants. Both are in the Nightshade family.



The magnolia tree bursts into flower after a deep soaking.



The containers of colorful petunias add charm to the view from the deck.



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