

June

Annuals:

- It is now safe to plant all annual plants.
- Mulch all annual beds, preferably with finely textured organic mulch like cocoa bean shells.
- Water all annual beds, about 1" of water per week.
- Begin deadheading as spent flowers show up. This will extend the bloom time of the plant.
- Fertilize by using a slow release fertilizer. This will give your plants nutrients for the whole summer.

Bulbs:

- Continue planting Gladiola, Caladium, Cannas, Callas, and Dahlias. You can also plant Autumn Crocus beginning in mid June.
- Water the bulbs. They do not like when the soil dries out. Give them about 1" of water per week.
- Watch for pests and treat accordingly.
- You may need to stake tall Dahlias and Gladiolas.
- Mulch the bulbs with a finely textured mulch, such as cocoa beans, shredded leaves, or shredded mulch.
- Continue to deadhead.

Fruit:

- Strawberries will be ripening in June, harvest them as often as possible to keep overripe berries off the plant.
- Rake immature apples that fall off tree. Also, thin out apples by removing all but one or two of the developing fruit in each cluster.
- Continue to check for watering needs.
- Continue to monitor and treat pests as needed. Pay attention to the labels on all insecticides when using on fruit.
- Raspberries, strawberries, blueberries, and grapes can all be fertilized again.

Herbs and Vegetables:

- It is now safe to plant all vegetables and herbs, including tomatoes, peppers, and egg plants.
- Mulch your herb and vegetable garden when the soil has warmed. Use shredded leaves, cocoa bean shells, pine needles, straw, or finely shredded wood mulch.
- Begin to harvest green onions, leaf lettuce, and spinach.
- Stop harvesting rhubarb after 8-10 weeks. Stop harvesting asparagus after 6-8 weeks. Allow leaves to develop to help replenish energy supplies and keep the plant productive. Fertilize rhubarb and asparagus after the last harvest. Apply 2-3 pounds of low nitrogen fertilizer per 100 square feet.
- Begin monitoring for pests. If you are going to use pesticides, make sure and read the labels carefully for amount of time to wait for harvest after application.

Lawns:

- Early June is when you start to fertilize your lawn. Apply ½ pound of actual nitrogen per 1000 square feet. This is equal to 5 pounds of a fertilizer containing 10 percent nitrogen. Consider using a low-nitrogen, slow release fertilizer to reduce the risk of burning.
- You can still lay sod, but it will require more water now.
- Water established lawns only if they need it. Water thoroughly, but less frequently to help establish deeper root growth and drought tolerance.
- Try not to use herbicides in the heat of summer as they can damage your lawn. Instead, pull weeds by hand, especially those in bloom.
- Early June is the time to lay down grub killers to take care of Japanese Beetles.

Perennials, Ornamental Grasses, and ground covers:

- Keep planting. Now is a great time to transplant bleeding heart.
- Continue to dig and divide overgrown perennials.
- Add mulch to your perennial beds. Use cocoa bean shells or shredded wood/bark.
- Water newly planted perennials thoroughly. Established plants will need about 1" of water per week during the summer. Do not over water plants, as many plants can die just as easily from over watering than from under watering.
- Watch for aphids, mites, leafhoppers, and other pests.

Roses:

- Continue planting.

- Only prune shrub roses after they have reached full size. When they have reached full size, they may need a little yearly pruning, and June is the time to do it. Thin out the rose by taking some canes all the way to the ground. You can also shorten overgrown stems by 1/3 if desired.
- Deadhead flowers as they fade.
- Continue to monitor for pests, disease, and water.
- Mulch roses with a thin layer of organic matter or shredded wood.
- Japanese beetles will soon be showing up. You may want to use a systemic insecticide to prepare for them.

Shrubs:

- Continue planting.
- Mulch around your shrubs using shredded wood.
- Continue to water new plantings. Established shrubs do not require much water. Water when you can tell the plant is stressed.
- Monitor for pests.
- Finish pruning spring blooming shrubs early this month to allow plenty of time for the flower buds to develop for next spring.
- Shear and shape hedges after the new growth has emerged.

Trees:

- Young trees should be checked a few times a week to see if they need water.
- Yellow and off color leaves may indicate a lack of nutrients. Only fertilize if the tree is showing signs that is stressed.
- Prepare for Japanese beetles by spraying a systemic insecticide on trees they prefer, such as birch and linden.
- Continue to water as needed.
- Prune out dead, damaged, or diseased branches only.