



JULY FLOWER GARDEN GUIDE

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Bulbs

- The foliage of spring flowering bulbs can be removed safely after it fades. This is also a good time to lift the bulbs for transplanting or propagation
- Place catalog orders for fall planting.

Annuals

- Remove spent flowers on a regular basis to maintain vigorous blooming.
- Maintain a one to two inch layer of mulch around plants to conserve water.
- Maintain even moisture on container plants and hanging baskets.
- If petunias get leggy, pinch back hard to stimulate fresh growth and more flowers.
- Control severe aphid infestations in garden flowers with sprays of insecticidal soap or Ultrafine Oil.

Perennials

- Now through August, three to six year old clumps of bearded iris should be divided and replanted. Rhizomes should be cut into sections with at least two fans a piece. If any rhizomes have suffered from soft rot, cut out and discard the affected portions. Expose the freshly cut roots to direct sun for three or four days to kill microbes before replanting.
- Sow seeds of Sweet William and forget-me-nots at this time for next spring's bloom.
- Beds should receive one inch of water per week during dry periods.
- Chrysanthemums should receive final pinchings before July 4. To pinch, remove the tips of the growing shoots when the shoots reach 6 inches in length. Aster should receive their second pinching this month.
- Continue powdery mildew prevention sprays on aster, border phlox, bee balm and Joe pye weed.
- Deadhead the following as blooms fade: purple coneflower, globe thistle, blanket flower, baby's breath, gayfeather, daylily, balloon flower, speedwell, yarrow, astilbe, delphinium, pinks and peachleaf bellflower.
- The following varieties should be cut back hard to stimulate fresh growth: Carpathian and Serbian bellflower, Shasta daisy, lanceleaf coreopsis, lamium and spiderwort. Flax and lavender can be sheared as well.
- Clean up the dead foliage of columbine, bleeding heart and poppy as they go into dormancy.
- Keep an eye out for Japanese beetle later this month.
- Remove old flower heads from lilacs and rhododendrons.
- Divide Oriental poppies and bleeding heart after the foliage dies.

Roses

- Fertilize plants according to package directions. Dry or water soluble fertilizer can be used.
- Remove all but dominant bud from hybrid teas for larger blooms.
- Continue a regular insect and disease control program for roses.
- Keep roses mulched with several inches of organic material; shredded bark, compost, herbicide-free grass clippings, ground corncobs, etc.
- Once-blooming varieties (primarily old garden roses) should be pruned as they finish blooming. They should not be pruned at any other time of the year.
- Continue to deadhead faded blooms.
- Keep plants evenly moist to prevent drought stress.
- Remove spent blooms by pruning back to strong wood.

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