



# JULY



## GARDENING

# TO DO LIST

## GENERAL

- ☐ weed regularly to keep unwanted plants from stealing resources & make sure to get them before they go to seed
- ☐ check plants for water daily; watering early in the day is best
- ☐ if you are able to check water daily, you can plant all summer
- ☐ keep snails & slugs away with Sluggo
- ☐ control Japanese beetles with Permethrin or Neem Oil
- ☐ apply pesticides in the evening, never in the heat of the day & never when the plant is dry or stressed

## VEGETABLES & HERBS

- ☐ cut back herbs to keep plants bushy
- ☐ transplant broccoli & cauliflower seedlings in the ground mid-July through mid-August
- ☐ remove flowers from basil & cilantro to prolong leaf harvest
- ☐ fertilize summer vegetables & fruit trees & shrubs (except figs, which shouldn't be fertilized while fruiting)
- ☐ apply soil pH change amendments between now & fall (i.e. lime for figs & cherries & sulfur for blueberries)
- ☐ direct sow beans, beets, carrots, Swiss chard & cucumbers through the end of the month for a late crop
- ☐ if you find squash vine borers on squash/pumpkin vines (signs of wilting & entrance holes on lower stems), cut a slit in the stem above the hole with a razor and remove the larva, mounding soil around the wound afterwards
- ☐ remove fruits with blossom end rot or that are malformed from tomato, pepper, squash & watermelon plants; control by watering deeply & regularly & keeping plants mulched

## SHRUBS & TREES

- ☐ deadhead shrubs, like roses & spireas, to promote reblooming
- ☐ remove dead, damaged or diseased branches & suckers & water sprouts any time
- ☐ give roses final fertilizer of the summer
- ☐ prune shrubs that bloom next year on buds set this year by July 4th (azaleas, rhododendrons, lilacs, early-blooming spireas)

## ANNUALS & PERENNIALS

- ☐ cut back chrysanthemums by half to encourage fall blooming
- ☐ keep fertilizing annuals
- ☐ remove dead flowers from perennials & annuals to encourage reblooming

## LAWN

- ☐ mow regularly, cutting 1/3 or less of the grass blade
- ☐ leave grass clippings on lawn to provide Nitrogen
- ☐ fertilize zoysia lawns (but don't fertilize cool-season grasses, like fescues)
- ☐ make sure your lawn gets about 1" of water a week (or follow conservation guidelines & let your lawn go dormant over the summer)
- ☐ keep newly seeded or sodded areas watered

## WILDLIFE

- ☐ change water in bird baths regularly; standing water is a breeding ground for mosquito larvae