

GROWER'S GUIDE PEONIES



DAYONA FARM FOUNDATION



SPRING ROMANCE



Peonies may be one of the most beautiful flowers on the planet Earth. They are lush, full of petals, and have maximal detail yet are soft in texture. Peonies are the late spring romance that, while glorious, is simply momentary. These blooms remind us to stop, slow down and enjoy because they are only with us temporarily. Most Peonies bloom for 7-10 days, then fade away.



TYPES OF PEONIES



There are two types of peonies, tree peonies, and herbaceous peonies. The critical differences between tree and herbaceous peonies are whether they are intended to be permanent all-year fixtures in the garden and what zone they can grow in. Herbaceous peonies grow well in Zones 3-7; tree peonies can grow up to Zone 9.



TREE VS. HERBACEOUS



Tree Peonies

Paeonia sect. Moutan

Tree peonies preserve their above-ground woody stems throughout the year, even after the flowers and branches have dropped. They are tall and retain their stable framework. However, the leaves will deteriorate and must be removed from the branches. Please do not cut down the branches themselves; leave them standing for the winter.



Herbaceous Peonies

Paeonia lactiflora

Herbaceous peonies are perennials. They are one of the most easily grown hardy perennials that exist. They are durable and can easily live over 100 years. Once the plants start to yellow or brown in the fall they should be cut level to the ground. Ideally, this is done in early fall or after the first frost. Then, in the spring, new growth will appear from the roots.



PEONY CARE

Peonies are an excellent choice for attracting bees to your garden. The pollen and nectar of a single-petaled or semi-double peony attract pollinators. The best time to plant peonies is in the fall, but they can also be planted in late April or May. Peonies grow best in slightly moist, well-drained soil. In addition, they prefer a sunny location with good air circulation.

01

Watering

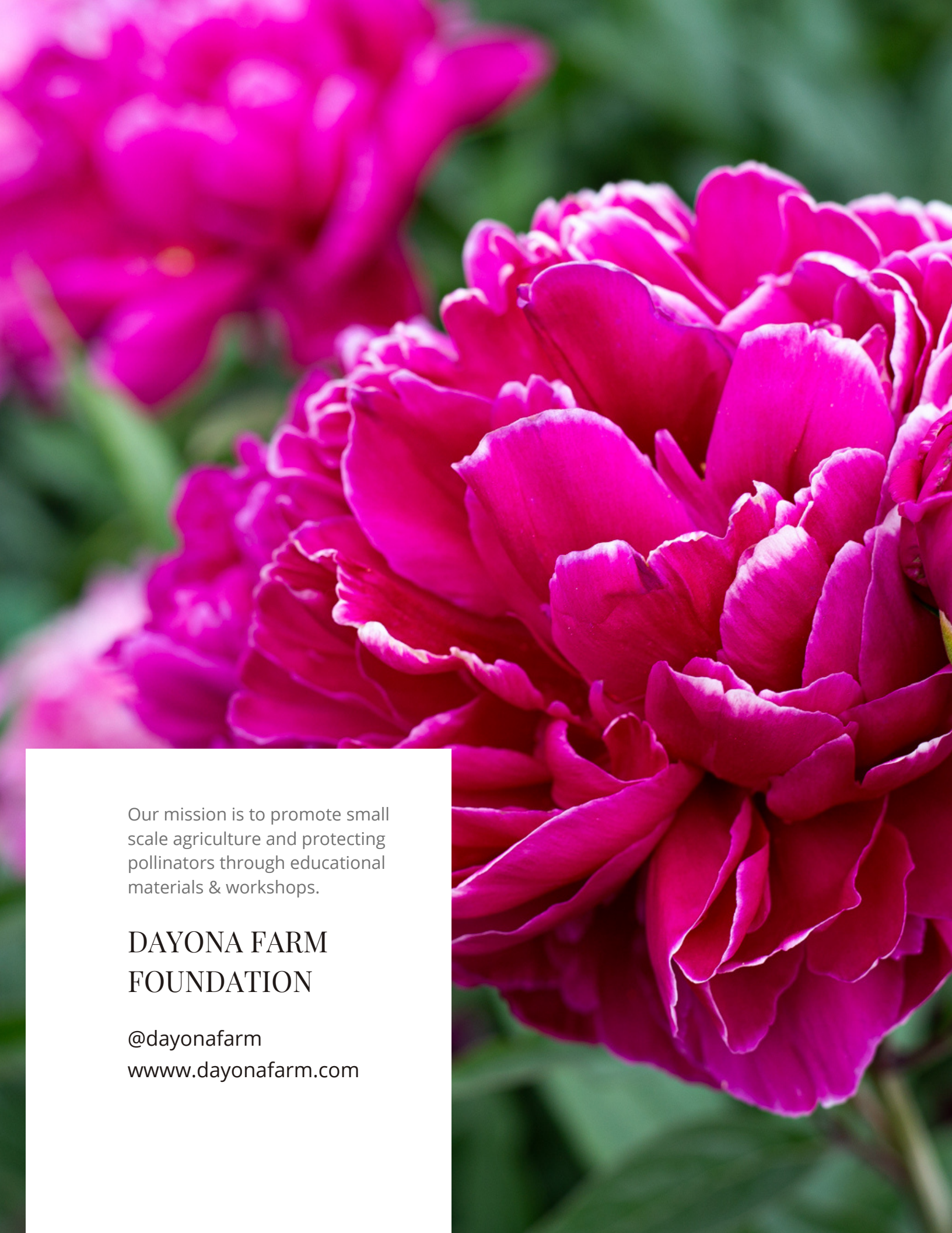
Start watering established peonies in the spring once new growth shows every 7 to 10 days unless you have had one inch of rainfall in the week. Peonies are drought tolerant, so less is more. Water them more frequently for the first year if you have young peonies or recently split; this gives the peony a chance to establish itself well.

02

Planting

The most critical aspect of growing peonies is proper planting depth. The eyes on the root should be planted to a depth of 1½ -2 inches below soil level. The eyes of peony roots are bullet-shaped pink buds growing from the plant's crown. Each eye represents a potential stem for next year.





Our mission is to promote small
scale agriculture and protecting
pollinators through educational
materials & workshops.

**DAYONA FARM
FOUNDATION**

@dayonafarm

www.dayonafarm.com