



## “From the Potting Shed”

Riverview Garden Club – June Helpful Hints  
2023

### *Things to do in the garden this month...*

#### **Chores and Maintenance:**

- Continue to cultivate to remove weeds and mulch planting beds
- Continue to dig and divide early-blooming perennials after flowering
- Water, water as needed, especially those plants in containers and hanging baskets
- Set supports for floppy plants, vines and vegetables
- Deadhead rhododendrons, lilacs and perennials after flowering
- Add to, aerate and moisten compost pile to speed decomposition
- Continue to check for pests and other problems and treat as necessary
- Mow lawns regularly to keep grass at 2 1/2 - 3" height
- Leave grass clippings on lawn to improve availability of nitrogen
- Water lawns if there is less than 1" of rain per week
- Begin to spray roses every week with baking soda solution to protect against black spot disease (**Cornell University's formula consists of: 3 tsp. baking soda, 2 1/2 tbsp. summer-weight horticultural oil, mixed with 1 gallon of water**)
- Continue application of deer repellents and re-apply after rain if needed

#### **Planting:**

- Complete moving self-sown annuals and perennials to desired locations
- Sow seeds of fast-growing annuals like marigolds, zinnias and cosmos directly in the garden
- Continue to plant and transplant perennials, weather and soil conditions permitting
- Finish planting summer annuals
- Complete planting summer flowering bulbs, such as canna, gladiolus and dahlias
- Plant caladium and tuberous begonias in shady spots

### **Pruning/ Fertilizing:**

- Continue to prune all plant material to remove any diseased, dead, weak or crossed branches
- Complete pruning early spring-flowering shrubs
- Prune evergreens and evergreen hedges into early summer
- Continue deadheading roses
- Fertilize roses after peak bloom
- Complete fertilizing spring-flowering bulbs
- Fertilize annuals and container plants

### **Vegetables:**

- Harvest cool weather lettuce, radishes and scallions
- Sow, or sow more carrots, beets, radishes, salad greens, and dill. With salad greens, select heat-resistant varieties now for best results if they will come into warmer weather. Direct-sow more kale and chard, too.
- Direct sow bush beans; plant a short row every two weeks, and also sow pole beans for an even later crop.
- Sow seeds of heat-tolerant vegetables
- If you like cilantro, plant a short row every couple of weeks for a constant supply; most varieties bolt pretty fast (eventually yielding coriander seeds).
- Hill up white potatoes to prevent them from turning green and poisonous.
- You haven't missed tomato time! Plant deep, and use heavy cages, or stake and prune tomatoes to help prevent disease.
- Eggplants and peppers should be in the ground early this month, too, and smaller tomato cages can be recycled to hold these plants up.
- Keep asparagus and garlic well-weeded. Let asparagus grow lots of ferns the rest of the summer and fall; never cut back the foliage until it's totally brown. If you're growing hard neck garlic, the delicious "extra" crop of their scapes (flowering stalks) will be coming in right about now.
- Water garlic during dry spells for biggest bulbs. Wait to harvest bulbs in July. Not now, unless the plant is showing that several of the lower leaves go brown, but five or six up top are still green.
- Mulch vegetables with baled or chopped straw, partially rotted leaves, or other available organic materials.

*Happy Gardening!*

### **Sources:**

\*Lawn and flower garden tips provided by New York Botanical Gardens

\*Vegetable garden tips from the book "A Way to Garden" by Margaret Roach