

June in the Garden

Planning

June is generally when the great weather begins. The days begin to stay warmer and much of the garden is already planted. Plan on making a pass through each of your garden beds each week.

Now is the time to check your food preservation supplies. Your garden will be producing soon and you want to

Planting

Plant potted roses, shrubs, trees, ground covers, vines and perennial herbs.

Transplant warm weather vegetables such as melons, peppers, eggplant, corn and tomatoes.

Fuchsias can go out now in partial to full shade, but protect them from the afternoon sun.

Dahlias can be planted now. Add bonemeal to the planting hole and remember that Dahlias need to be staked when you plant them so as not to puncture the tubers later.

Basil can be sown by seed directly into the garden and will still produce in a short season.

Group plants that have similar watering requirements together.

By using compost as your mulch, the organic matter contributes to the soil's fertility and structure as it breaks down.

Mulching is the first line of defense that gardeners can use to suppress weeds, reduce water use and maintain moderate soil temperatures.

Inside and Out

As your perennials bloom, remove spent flowers to prevent plants from using their energy on seed production, and to stimulate re-blooming.

Remove faded flowers and seed pods to keep your annuals blooming. Pinch shoots back to keep plants compact.

It is important to wait until the foliage on bulbs has yellowed and died before you cut them back. This is how the bulbs store food to produce flowers for next year.

Check and repair irrigation systems and adjust for seasonal needs.

Don't allow weeds to compete with your plants for moisture. Get them out of there.

Thin fruit blooms on fruit trees for larger fruits.

Prune spring-flowering shrubs after they bloom. Shrubs such as flowering almond, forsythia, quince, lilacs and others stay compact and have better blooms with annual pruning. Cut out dead or broken branches and up to one-third of the stalks.

Houseplants, including amaryllis, and also clivia, among many, can spend the summer outdoors, in a sheltered location with filtered bright light (not direct sun). Pinch back and repot those that need it as you transition them, and feed regularly.