

GARDEN TO-DO LIST

APRIL

- Prune overgrown shrubs, cutting out no more than one-third of the oldest canes from the base of the plant.
- Plant cool-season vegetables including peas, broccoli, onions and spinach.
- Plant newly purchased trees, shrubs and perennials.
- Test irrigation systems for problems before aerating and fertilizing lawns.
- Spot-treat lawns for broad-leaf weeds like dandelions.

MAY

- Plant annuals, most of which are frost sensitive, on or after Mother's Day.
- Deadhead spent tulip and daffodil flowers.
- Leave the green foliage and allow it to turn brown. It will supply energy to the bulb for next year's blossoms.
- Raise mower blades to between two and three inches following the season's first lawn mowing. The higher blade promotes root growth, conserves water, reduces weeds and creates a healthier lawn.
- Clip off one-third to one-half of new candles on evergreens to maintain compact growth.

JUNE

- Pinch back chrysanthemums and fall-blooming asters to create more compact plants.
- Plant seeds and set out all warm-season vegetables and annual seedlings.
- Continue to plant summer flowering bulbs. Plant a few gladioli each week for continuous blooms.
- Divide spring bulbs as the foliage dies.
- Remove weeds from gardens while they are small and haven't gone to seed.