

# Cynthia Brian's Garden Guide for March

**CUT** budding branches from fruit trees to place in a vase to watch the petals open. Add a few drops of bleach to the water to prolong the blooms. A few sprigs of narcissus provide perfume to an entire room.

**USE** baby tears as a ground cover in shaded areas as a pretty green carpet.

**CUT** calla lilies to be used indoors in a vase. They will last two or more weeks as long as you replace the water regularly and add a drop of bleach or lemon juice to the water.

**INVITE** the wood nymphs, faeries, and leprechauns into your garden to help you with your chores by providing hiding places for these wee ones.

**CLEANSE** your indoor air with a container of peace lilies, also known as the sail plant.

**FORAGE** for wild greens including Miner's lettuce, mustard, creek watercress and wild strawberries. The young leaves are delicious in salads.

**PULL** weeds as soon as the rains terminate. Leave weeds on hillsides to prevent erosion until the end of next month.

**PREPARE** your soil for next month's planting by mixing your compost into the topsoil. Don't rototill unless you are creating a new garden bed as you don't want to disturb the existing ecosystem that surely contains many worms.

**FERTILIZE** lawns, trees and annuals with a high-nitrogen organic fertilizer. It's best to fertilize your lawns when you know it's going to rain to assure a deep feeding. The winter rains have definitely stripped our soil of nutrients making it necessary to boost the nutrition now. Remember to mow without the bag as the lawn cuttings are rich in nourishment for the grass.

**TIME** to reseed or sod lawns. My preferred grass seeds are purchased from Pearl's Premium. [www.PearlsPremium.com](http://www.PearlsPremium.com). I also really like mixing in clover as it is self-fertilizing and always green. You do have to like having tiny white or pink flowers in your grass.

**NET** areas where you are seeding, both in gardens or grass. The birds will be voracious eaters if you don't protect your seedlings.

**WEAR** green on March 17 and pin a clover on your collar or the banshees will be coming for you.

**BUY** packets of seeds for vegetables, vines, herbs and flowers from companies you trust. Look for heirloom varieties and non-GMO. There are many companies to choose from including Renee's Garden, Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds, Plant Delights Nursery, White Flower Farm, Select Seeds and many others.

**CONTINUE** to collect fallen camellias until the end of the blooming season. Do not let the dying or dead flowers remain on the ground or you'll jeopardize the mother plant.

**PRE-ORDER** my forthcoming garden book, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener," Book I in the Garden Shorts Series. All pre-orders will receive extra goodies such as heirloom seeds, bookmarks and more. Email me for details, [Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com](mailto:Cynthia@GoddessGardener.com). Twenty-five percent of the proceeds benefit the 501c3 Be the Star You Are! charity.

**RELEASE** your perfection attitude in the garden. Take your cues from the chaos that is nature. Let it go and let it grow!

**SING** a lullaby, dream of castles, kiss the Blarney Stone, and celebrate the vernal equinox with an Irish jig.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Andy and Wendy Scheck for 10 years of stellar publishing of the Lamorinda Weekly. I am honored and grateful to be a part of this elite writing team. Our community is better because of this newspaper. Thank you!



*The bright blooms of crocosimias.*



*Raised beds with edible greens and lettuces.*