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## Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for September

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- **ENJOY** the bright blooms of the crepe myrtle in shades of florescent pink, purple, violet, and white. Their leaves will bring fall color next month.
- **FIX** leaks! Buy new hoses and check your irrigation system monthly.
- **DIVIDE** perennials. Move to other places in your garden and share with friends.
- PRE-COOL your body before working in the garden by drinking a big glass of
  water with ice to ward off heat-induced fatigue.
- CLEAR pond weeds if you have a pond and keep leaves out of the water.
- **DIRECT SOW** lettuce, mache, arugula, and other greens to enjoy fresh salads through the autumn.
- START kale, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, and cabbage. Did you know that these brassicas originated from heritage seeds of wild mustard?
- ATTEND the Vermicomposting and Bin Building Workshop from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday, Sept. 6 at the Civic Park Community Center in downtown Walnut Creek. All instruction, bin materials, and worms included; \$20 per household, 25 household max capacity. CCCSWA service area residents only. www.wastediversion.org.
- EXPAND your shade garden by planting one of the new varieties of hydrangeas.
   Bloom colors range from lime green, to blue, fuchsia, pink, white, multi-hued, and aging to red. Sizes vary from a few feet in height and width to 8 feet or more.



Throw clover seeds in the lawn to enrich the soil.

- PICK up free seeds, potpourri, and garden book marks at the Be the Star You Are!® booth at the Moraga Pear and Wine Festival between 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 27. Participate in the story game and say hello to yours truly. Sponsored by Lamorinda Weekly and Napa Valley Wealth Management.
- BUY spring bulbs. Tulips need to be refrigerated for a month before planting.





Your friendly neighborhood arborists Darren and Lew Edwards

## **New Tree Planting**

Think of the tree you just purchased as a lifetime investment. How well your tree, and investment, grows depends on the type of tree and location you select for planting, the care you provide when the tree is planted, and follow-up care the tree receives after planting. The ideal time to plant trees and shrubs is during the dormant season-in the fall after their leaves drop or early spring before bud breaks. Weather conditions are cool and allow plants to establish roots in the new location. The proper handling during planting is essential to ensure a healthy future for new trees and shrubs.

So don't wait until it's too late, call your local Arborist at Advance Tree Service and Landscaping to help you find your perfect tree.

Advance Tree Service Your Authority on Trees and Landscape.



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Bees are still working hard at pollinating. This bee feeds on a colorful zinnia.