

Cynthia Brian's Gardening Guide for June

CUT back daffodils, tulips, hyacinths, bluebells, freesias, and other bulbs once the leaves have turned crispy yellow.

ADD companion plantings of Oriental poppies, alliums, delphiniums, daylilies, salvias and peonies.

RESCUE newly hatched nestlings without feathers that have fallen out prematurely by putting them back in the nest, if reachable. If you find baby birds with feathers on the ground, leave them alone. The parents of these fledglings are probably nearby bringing them food before they learn to fly.

PLANT summer blooming bulbs including gladiolus, crocosmia, dahlias, begonias and lilies. Plant the bulb pointy side up, but if you are not sure, plant your bulbs sideways and they'll find their way to the surface.

ADD risers to sprinkler heads in boxwood hedges that are too short to eliminate death by drowning. Boxwoods don't like too much water.

FILL bird feeders with fresh seed.

CLEAN patio furniture (maybe again) in preparation for warm weather.

SHARPEN lawn mower blades.

WEED, weed, weed. With the ground still moist, this is an opportune time to do round three of weeding so that the plants you love will get more water and nutrients to survive the summer.

READ the Guide to Wildfire Preparedness and Evacuation. It is essential that every family create an emergency plan. For information on what you can do in your landscape to help protect your home from wildfires, read Firescaping:

<https://www.lamorindaweekly.com/archive/issue1305/Digging-Deep-with-Cynthia-Brian-for-May-FireScaping.html>

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing!



Photos Cynthia Brian

Bright yellow flowers on a hedge of sedum dendroideum.



Fluorescent crimson rhododendron glistens in the rain.