

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

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Lamorinda Home Sales

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

Spring shopping: Seeds or starts?



Wait until flowers fade to prune azaleas with hand trimmers, not powered pruners.

By Cynthia Brian

"Spring is the time of plans and projects."~ Leo Tolstoy, Anna Karenina

No matter how many springs I've encountered, I am forever awed and amazed at the bursting of blossoms and the beauty of the lush landscapes. Every year I find myself reiterating how much I adore this wondrous season. A fever warms the air, one that encourages me to weed, seed, feed, plan and plant. Are you feeling this same urge to indulge in outdoor projects?

Before you go to your local nursery or garden center to shop, take photos of your yard and patio. Make a tentative plan of what projects you'd like to tackle. Peruse a catalog to find photos and descriptions of plants that you think will shine in your garden. Do you want to buy seed packets or are you planning on buying starts? It pays to know what plants grow best when seeds are scattered and what plants will do better when they are purchased either in six-packs, flats, gallons, or larger.



A view of cascading wisteria from a pergola.

Photos Cynthia Brian

SOWING SEEDS

It is possible to buy seeds for almost any plant, however, not all seeds will sprout successfully. Over the years, I have found the following flowers, herbs, and vegetables do well when planted by seed.

Flowers

Calendula
Hollyhock
Marigold
Nasturtium
Nigella
Zinnia
Sunflower
Cosmos
Bachelor's Button
Four O'clock
Columbine
California Poppy

Shasta Daisy

Coneflower

Vegetables and Herbs

Beet
Radish
Arugula
Swiss Chard
Kale
Carrot
Bean
Pea
Lettuce
Spinach

Sorrel

Corn

Turnip

Mustard

Pumpkin

Chive

Parsley

Chervil

Chamomile

Dill

Fennel

Cilantro

Lemon Balm

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