




Gardening Checklist

May/June

-  Pull the mulch from around your plants, away from the crowns, and let the sun and air warm the plant. Once the temperatures warm up for the season, apply a nice layer of fresh mulch to help keep the roots cool, slow weed growth and hold in valuable moisture.
-  Allow spring blooming trees and shrubs to completely finish their bloom cycle before pruning.
-  Prune summer and fall flowering shrubs now.
-  Deep water and then fertilize trees and shrubs to give them a good boost to start the growing season.
-  Plant summer bulbs in May.
-  Spring is an ideal time to plant perennials. This gives them a long season ahead to develop their root systems before cooler fall temperatures set in. Use Espoma Plant Tone fertilizer or slow-release Osmocote as an important spring feeding.
-  Existing rose plants may be bursting with leaves and flower buds at this time. Make sure to protect any tender, new growth when temperatures dip below 40 degrees. Start your fertilizing schedule now!
-  Cool season veggies such as lettuce, spinach, swiss chard, chives and radishes can be planted now. Also kale, broccoli and cauliflower thrive in spring's cooler weather.
-  Harden off any seedlings you've started indoors by slowly acclimating them to cooler temperatures. Place the plants outside, in the shade for a few hours each day, gradually increasing until weather temperatures are steadily warm.
-  Most sprinkler systems can now be turned on for the season. Inspect for damaged pipes and sprinkler heads.