



# JULY Bloomers:



**PERENNIALS:** Yarrow (Achillea) - Monkshood (Aconitum) - Lady's Mantle (Alchemilla) - Goatsbeard (Aruncus) - Milkweed (Asclepias) - Astilbe varieties - Heather (Calluna) - Bellflower (Campanula) - Bugbane (Cimicifuga) - Tickseed (Coreopsis) - Bleeding Heart (Dicentra eximia) - Foxglove (Digitalis) - Coneflower (Echinacea varieties) - Blanket Flower (Gaillardia) - Wandflower (Gaura) - Geranium perennial varieties - Baby's Breath (Gypsophila) - False Sunflower (Heliopsis) - Daylily varieties (Hemerocallis) - Coral Bells (Heuchera) - Hosta (many Hosta varieties) - Deadnettle (Lamium) - Lavender (Lavendula) - Shasta Daisy (Leucanthemum) - Gayfeather (Liatris) - Oriental Lily (Lilium orientale hybrids) - Lily-turf (Liriope) - Cardinal Flower (Lobelia) - Bee Balm (Monarda) - Catmint (Nepeta) - Evening Primrose (Oenothera) - Russian Sage (Perovskia) - Garden Phlox (Phlox paniculata) - Obedient Plant (Physostegia) - Balloon Flower (Platycodon) - Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia) - Pincushion Flower (Scabiosa) - Stonecrop (Sedum acre) - Thyme (Thymus) - Veronica

**SHRUBS:** Bottlebrush Buckeye (Aesculus parviflora) - Butterflybush (Buddleia) - Summersweet (Clethra) - Smokebush (Cotinus) - Rose of Sharon (Hibiscus syriacus) - Hydrangea (H. 'Annabelle', 'Endless Summer', 'Nikko Blue', 'Pee Gee' & Oakleaf varieties) - St. Johnswort (Hypericum) - Potentilla hybrids - Spirea varieties - Yucca

**VINES:** Trumpet Vine (Campsis) - Clematis - Honeysuckle Vine (Lonicera)

**TREES:** Sourwood (Oxydendrum arboreum) - Stewartia (Stewartia pseudocamellia)

## JULY Gardening Checklist:



### PERENNIAL GARDEN:

- Dig up, separate & re-plant overgrown clumps of Bearded Iris.
- Shear Catmint (Nepeta) after flowers fade & there'll be another set of flowers later this summer.
- Cut flower stems of Lavender to be dried just as the flowers begin to open.
- Pinch Chrysanthemums for the last time in early July to enjoy bushy plants this fall. Pinching back the tip of the stem increases flowers. Dormant buds start forming in late July.
- Combine Hostas & Ferns in the shade garden for contrasting colors & textures.

### ROSE CARE:

- Remove spent flowers from roses regularly.

### ANNUALS & VEGGIES:

- When Geranium flowers wither, pinch off the flower with your fingernail an inch or so below the blossom. A few days later, tug out the dried, brownish stem at the top. A replacement stem & flower will grow quickly because you pruned properly.
- Harvest pickling cucumbers when they reach 2 to 6 inches in length.
- Water Strawberry plants once a week during the summer & early fall if weather is dry.
- Shear mints, oregano & savory to promote bushy growth.
- I heard this one, but haven't tried: To rid your vegetable garden of rabbits, soak corn cobs in vinegar for 5 min. & scatter in the garden. Bring in & soak again in 2 weeks to ensure that the rabbits stay out.
- Soften the soil by watering before tackling heavy duty weeding.
- Dry herbs by hanging loose bunches in airy but dark locations.
- Do not apply fertilizers on wet plants.

### TREES & SHRUBS:

- Water shallow-rooted shrubs, like azalea, rhododendron & mountain laurel.
- Prune hedges. Also, prune dead branches from trees & shrubs during dry weather.
- Shade trees may increase property value & save energy.
- Cut back vigorously growing shoots of wisteria to check growth.

### LAWN CARE:

- The first Japanese Beetle grubs are hatching in the soil in mid-July.
- Without irrigation in summer droughts, the lawn will brown out. Grass blades 7 stems will die, but roots & the crown buried in the top half-inch of soil will survive. When the rain returns, straw-brown lawns will return to health in about 3 weeks. (Turfgrass requires one inch of water per week).
- Mow lawns at least 2" high to minimize heat damage. Maintain a sharp mower blade (especially if lawn looks brown after mowing).
- Moles in your lawn can mean a white grub infestation.
- Moss in the lawn could mean too much shade, low fertility, poor drainage or soil compaction.

### HOME & PATIO:

- Add some pizzazz in your peas - add a few mint leaves to the cooking water.
- Clean your air conditioning filters again if you have allergies.
- Wash insect-infested herb plants with a mild soap solution, then rinse with clear water.