



## May Gardening Tips

### Prune:

- ❖ Lilacs, Mock Orange, Weigela, & many types of Viburnum after the blossoms fade
- ❖ begin pinching back mums as soon as shoots are 4-6" long
- ❖ pinch back Sedum to keep it compact in the fall
- ❖ pick blossoms from newly planted strawberries until they become established
- ❖ twist off dead flowers of rhododendron & azalea

### Fertilize:

- feed Lilacs with 10-10-10 after blooming
- sprinkle bone meal or use a liquid foliar feed on narcissi & tulips (allow to die down naturally before clearing away the foliage)
- rhododendron & azalea with an acid fertilizer (HollyTone) – a dose of sequestered iron helps prevent leaves turning yellow

### Plant:

- thin crowded carrots, chard and lettuce
- forced flower bulbs (hyacinth, daffodils, tulips, etc.) outside after they finish flowering
- Veggies: tomatoes, pole beans, cucumber, squash, melon, peppers

Also:

- stake peonies, aster, false sunflower
- keep turning your compost pile
- continue to weed (it's easier when the soil is wet)
- edge your beds with a half-moon edger – (slice through the grass holding the edger at a right angle to the turf)
- water thoroughly once or twice a week rather than little and often
- containers may need water on a daily basis