Dennis' 7 Dees

MONTHLY GARDENING CHECKLIST

June

This month, vibrant colors and abundant growth set the stage for a delightful outdoor experience. With longer days and warmer temperatures, June invites us to embrace the beauty of fragrant blooming flowers, lush foliage, and freshly picked berries. Most of all, now is the time to indulge in the wonders of our garden sanctuaries.

FOR THE GARDEN

Seasonal Color

- [ ] **Warm-season and tropical beauties now available.** Flowers: Dahlias, Lilies, Zinnias, Begonias, Cosmos, Black-Eye Susan; Foliage: Bananas, Callas, Coleus
- [ ] **Keep summer annuals blooming:** Pinch spent flowers, water, fertilize with bloom booster high in Phosphorous.
- [ ] **Roses are in full bloom**—fertilize again to support next wave of flowers and deadhead regularly.

Planting & Maintenance

- [ ] **Landscape plants can still be planted!** Visit our garden centers to browse our excellent selection.
- [ ] **Water and mulch beds** as summer heat arrives; new plantings and containers are most vulnerable to drought.
- [ ] **Fertilize plants:** Especially containers, flowers, veggies; use **G&B organic fertilizers** in granular or liquid form.
- [ ] **Feed roses** regularly, remove old flowers/leaves. Treat fungal diseases with **Neem Oil**. Use **Bayer 3-in-1 Insect, Disease & Mite Control** for pests and serious diseases.
- [ ] **Prune fruit trees** to maximize production—prune when fruit is obvious; remove branches that don't have fruit.
- [ ] **Prune Spring-flowering shrubs and vines** as flowers fade to control size or shape plants.
- [ ] **Shear hedges** once nesting birds have left (late June).
- [ ] **Pest and weed control:** Combat aphids and lacebug with **ladybugs**; plant insectary plants to attract beneficial insects; control slugs with **Sluggo** or **Bonide Slug & Bug**; pull, hoe, or mulch garden weeds.

Edible Gardening

- [ ] **Fertilize veggies** one month after seedlings emerge or starts planted. Side-dress rows or surround stand-alone plants with **G&B Tomato, Vegetable & Herb Fertilizer**.
- [ ] **Plant starts:** Broccoli, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Cucumber, Lettuce, Parsley, Pepper, Potatoes, Squash, Tomato
- [ ] **Sow for late-summer harvest:** Beets, Carrots, Celery, Corn, Kale, Leeks, Radish, Beans, Lettuce
- [ ] **Thin seedlings** for proper spacing as they grow. Harvest micro greens from lettuce, peas, onion, and chard to eat!
- [ ] **After normal fruit drop** of apples, pears, and peaches, consider thinning remainder to produce larger fruit crop.
- [ ] **Pick and enjoy ripe strawberries** regularly to avoid fruit-rotting diseases.
- [ ] **Spray apple and pear trees** for codling moth in first and last week of June, using a **pheromone trap** to detect the presence of codling moth caterpillars. Treat with a hose-end sprayer with **Bonide Captain Jack's**.
- [ ] **Control aphids on vegetables:** hose off with water, release **beneficial bugs**, or use **Neem Oil**.
- [ ] **Monitor beans and lettuce** for 12-spotted beetles; **check cole crops** for cabbage worms or flea beetles. Remove/treat with **Bonide Captain Jack's** or **Neem Oil**.
- [ ] **Pull weeds and control slugs** (**Sluggo** or **Slug & Bug**).

FOR THE LAWN

- [ ] **Tune your irrigation system!** Adjust to support lawn during warm, dry periods; be mindful of overwatering.
- [ ] **Fertilize** with organic lawn food like **G&B Lawn Fertilizer** to provide even nutrition all through growing season.

INDOOR GARDENING

- [ ] **Increase watering and misting**, especially if running air conditioners which can dry out indoor air.
- [ ] **Feed regularly** with balanced fertilizer diluted to ½ strength, and continue to monitor plants for pests.
- [ ] **Take houseplants outside** to shaded areas for natural light. Watch for sunburn on tender foliage; move plants away from direct sun or out of hottest rooms.

JUST FOR FUN

- [ ] **Enjoy summer by relaxing in your gorgeous garden:**
  - » Kick your feet up and admire all of your hard work.
  - » Sit outside with a fresh drink garnished with herbs or edible flowers, or add garden herbs to a mixed salad.
  - » Create a backyard bouquet with cut flowers/foliage.
  - » Take a walk in your neighborhood to admire other gardens and snap photos of your favorite plants!
- [ ] **Attend one of our classes** for info and inspiration.

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