



Basic Gardening Tips - Summer

Summer

- ❖ Deadhead flowers on most annuals and perennials.
- ❖ Control grubs with milky spore. It is harmless to children and pets.
- ❖ Prune and fertilize lilacs and rhododendron after they bloom.
- ❖ Divide iris every three to five years — after blooming. Cut back half of the foliage after dividing.
- ❖ Plant bee balm, penstemon, cardinal plant, foxglove, columbine, and phlox to attract hummingbirds.
- ❖ Remove an inch or two from the top of chrysanthemums and asters two or three times before July 4th.
- ❖ Remove the top of sedum (3-4 inches) early in the summer to keep them from falling over when they bloom in the fall.
- ❖ Feed annuals every two weeks with Miracle Gro. This is what we do on our islands/curves. Do not fertilize when the temperature is over 80 degrees, or if it is going to rain within 24 hours.
- ❖ You can divide daylilies after blooming, but they are easier to divide in the spring.
- ❖ Remove any flowers you see growing on basil.
- ❖ Water plants with at least one inch of water per week.
- ❖ Check yourself for ticks. In addition to Lyme, another virus transmitted by ticks is the Powassan virus. Read more at: [Powassan virus](#).

