



APRIL Bloomers:



PERENNIALS: Heath (*Erica*) - Hyacinth - Rock Cress (*Arabis*) - Basket of Gold (*Aurinia*) - Leopardbane (*Doronicum*) - Spurge (*Euphorbia*) - Hellebore (*Helleborus*) - Dead Nettle (*Lamium*) - Creeping Phlox (*Phlox subulata*) - Lungwort (*Pulmonaria*) - Periwinkle (*Vinca*) - Violets (*Viola*)
SHRUBS & VINES: Early Forsythia (*Forsythia*) - Japanese Andromeda (*Pieris*) - Common Forsythia (*Forsythia*) - 'Cornell Pink' Azalea - Spicebush (*Lindera*) - Shadblow (*Amelanchier*) - Star Magnolia (*Magnolia stellata*) - Sandcherry (*Prunus cistena*) - PJM Rhododendron
TREES: Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) - Birch (*Betula*) - Katsura Tree (*Cercidiphyllum*) - Redbud (*Cercis*) - Parrotia - Weeping Cherry (*Prunus subhirtella 'Pendula'*) - Sargent Cherry (*Prunus sargentii*)

Late-APRIL Gardening Checklist:



PERENNIAL GARDEN:

- Hostas are easily divided** in the spring.
- Remove spent flowers from Tulips**, Daffodils & Hyacinths to reserve energy.
- Groundcovers** provide a beautiful solution to tough spots where grass won't grow: shady areas & slopes.
- For bold, billowing patches of spring color - **plant Creeping Phlox**. These perennials aren't fussy, spread quickly & are easy to grow. They love full sun & well-drained soil. Lovely shades of pink-red-purple-blues-white.
- Plant Daylilies** for a low maintenance, pest-free flower garden.

ROSE CARE:

- Apply Preen to beds** to prevent weeds around roses, perennials, shrubs, trees & vegetables.
- Plant **miniature Roses in the rock garden**.
- Plant roses;** use peatmoss, cow manure & compost. Choose a sunny site.

ANNUALS & VEGGIES:

- Enjoy the zest & fragrance of herbs.** Fun for windowsills or formal knot garden.
- Set out Strawberry plants** about 3 feet apart in each row to prevent crowding. Plant in full sun, with cow manure. Expect yield of one quart of berries per plant.
- Plant red raspberry** rows in a north-south direction so each side gets equal sunlight.
- Ideal time to **plant Blueberries**.
- Plants need** carbon, hydrogen & oxygen (from air & water) and nitrogen, potassium, phosphorous, calcium, magnesium & sulfur (from soil). Plants will not achieve maximum growth if they receive too much or too little of these.
- Start cucumbers**, melons & squash indoors; transplant in late May.

TREES & SHRUBS:

- Wait until buds break & new growth begins **before pruning "dead" branches**.
- Plant climbing Hydrangea** to cover a masonry wall or stone wall.
- Plant **creeping Juniper as a groundcover** for hot, dry & sunny locations.
- HUG A TREE ON ARBOR DAY!** Arbor Day was established in 1874 on the treeless plains of Nebraska by J. Sterling Morton - Arbor Day is now celebrated throughout the US & around the world.
- Prune Forsythia after flowers fall;** then fertilize.
- Finger-pinch new candle growth** (80%) on dwarf pines & spruces to keep shrubs compact by forcing internal growth; then fertilize.
- Consider **proper pest control** for white pine weevil on pine & spruce. Look for tent caterpillars & wooly adelgid.

LAWN CARE:

- Time to start a new lawn** or re-seed old lawns. Grass roots like 4" of good topsoil with organic matter. Cultivate lightly, rake out weeds & roots. Rake smooth. Use a good quality seed & starter fertilizer. Protect with straw for moisture retention.

HOME & PATIO:

- Water houseplants with a solution of plant food 1-2 days **before repotting** them.
- If you **spray your Houseplants for pests**, move them outdoors on a warm, calm day.
- A potted foliage plant makes a **nice gift for Secretary's Day**.