



**JULY**

## TO-DO LIST

- Prune wisteria (two months after flowering) by cutting side-shoots back to five or six buds, about six inches from the main branch.
- Prune early-summer-flowering shrubs such as kolkwitzia (beauty bush), choisya (Mexican orange), enkianthus, philadelphus and magnolia.
- Pinch and prune chrysanthemums to promote bushiness.
- Take cuttings from pelargonium (geranium), senecio and lavender.
- Tidy up perennial beds by cutting back lilies, campanula, centaurea, irises and delphiniums as flowers fade.
- Deadhead roses, cutting back to a five-leaf cluster to promote repeat blooming.
- Continue to deadhead annuals and perennials to get maximum blooms.
- Try "stopping" your dahlias, which means pinching off the tip to promote new growth; also try "disbudding," which means reducing the number of buds to produce big, more voluptuous blooms.
- Start to harvest raspberries, rhubarb, cherries and strawberries. Early potatoes will also be almost ready to harvest. Sow a second crop of lettuce and radishes.
- Collect seed from foxgloves for sowing in pots and seed trays. The new plants can be transplanted where you want them to bloom.
- Water deeply and less often. Deep watering promotes more vigorous root systems, enabling lawns and plants to cope with hot, dry spells.
- Water hanging baskets and patio container plants every morning. On exceptionally hot days, they will need a second watering in the afternoon.
- Lightly fertilize plants, especially petunias, in containers and patio containers every few days.
- Cut bouquets of flowers to bring indoors.