

Summer Gardening Checklist

By Jake R Brady

- ☐ Watering
 - ☐ Set up a watering system, such as drip irrigation or soaker hoses.
 - ☐ Water your plants early in the morning to give them a head start.
 - ☐ Make a frequent check of flowers and vegetables for their watering needs.
 - ☐ Add a light layer of mulch around young plants to help their roots retain water.
- ☐ Plants
 - ☐ Replace dead annuals to ensure colorful blooms all summer long.
 - ☐ Harvest vegetable gardens and fruit orchards gardens.
 - ☐ Control weeds with mulch, weed mesh fabrics, or by using weed killer chemicals.
 - ☐ Rejuvenate annual and perennial flowers by deadheading.
 - ☐ Make sure you check your plants regularly for signs of insect infestation.
 - ☐ Apply a second, midsummer dose of fertilizer to young shrubs and trees.
 - ☐ Keep shrubs pruned and plants pinched back to promote dense, bushy growth.
 - ☐ Place a sheet of fine netting or wire mesh over strawberries, blueberries, and other fruit crops as soon as they begin to develop fruit.
 - ☐ Check your yard for poisonous plants and remove promptly.
- ☐ Lawn
 - ☐ Keep grass mowed to a recommended height of 3 inches.
 - ☐ Water deeply your lawn once a week for an hour at a shot.
 - ☐ Raise the cutting height on your mower to keep grass longer.