

Canadian Gardening

Summer gardening checklist

- To encourage fresh growth, clean up browning daylily foliage by plucking out dead leaves or cutting the clump back to 20 centimetres above the crown
- Use a soaker hose to keep trees, shrubs and perennials well watered during periods of drought
- Take a break and go on a garden tour – you're sure to find inspiring plantings and design ideas
- Remove spent blooms from annuals to encourage continued flowering
- Pull up undesirable tree seedlings (such as Manitoba maple and Chinese elm) in planting beds
- Check roses for aphids, leaf rollers, blackspot and powdery mildew
- After flowering, cut delphiniums to the ground to stimulate a second bloom
- Sow cool-weather vegetables such as lettuce, kale and spinach
- Weed, weed and weed some more

Tip:

Apply a shallow, organic mulch (about 5 to 8 cm deep) to flowerbeds to prevent ground moisture from evaporating due to drying winds and hot sun.

Essential summer plants:

- ✿ Bulb: Begonias (*Begonia* cvs.)
- ✿ Perennial: Garden phlox (*Phlox paniculata* cvs.)
- ✿ Shrub: Roses (*Rosa* cvs.)
- ✿ Tree: Purple beech (*Fagus sylvatica* and cvs.)
- ✿ Vine: Clematis (*Clematis* spp. and cvs.)

Visit CanadianGardening.com for more summer tips and advice!