



## April Garden Tips

- Plant tender bulbs and tubers (gladiola, lilies and dahlias). You may continue planting additional bulbs every two weeks until mid June to ensure a continuous source of bloom. •• Prune your forsythia after it finishes flowering.
- When all frost danger has passed, you can move your stored fuchsias and geraniums outdoors. Trim them back, feed and re-pot if necessary. Water them well.
- Divide most perennials once they've sent up significant foliage at least a couple of inches tall. Divide them if they are getting crowded (floppy stems, reduced blooms, a dead spot in the middle) or you simply want more plants. Sedum "Autumn Joy," for example, needs to be divided about every other year to prevent flopping. Siberian irises usually need dividing every three years or they start to grow in a circle around a dead center. Bearded irises are divided in August and peonies are divided in September.
- Deadhead spent flower heads on spring-blooming bulbs to direct the plant's energy back to their roots so they can build vigor for next year.
- Finish up most pruning this month with the exception of spring-blooming trees and shrubs. You can prune them immediately after they're done flowering. Don't forget to cut back the ornamental grasses - a string trimmer works well.
- Plant primroses and pansies.