

APRIL - JUNE GARDEN ALMANAC

By Stephen H. Brown, Lee County Horticulture Agent



Going from April to June is going to feel like it. True, we've had a dry winter and spring but all that is about to change, usually in June. It's all that summer rain that makes it feel hotter, stickier, and often limits the hours spent in the garden to the cooler mornings and evenings. Consider the change in season as your opportunity to reinvent the garden. It could be the right time to do some late spring cleaning and introduce a whole new line of plants into your garden. It may be the time to root out that shrub or tree and replace it with something more appropriate for your limited space or with something that's just healthier



CHINESE FAN PALM

and better looking or perhaps swap it out for a plant that's not a weedy invasive nuisance.

Lawns

Your lawn grass is now putting on more leaf and root growths and will require mowing once a week to keep it looking good. Applying a slow-release nitrogen fertilizer in May will help to "feed" your lawn over the summer especially where there is a nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer summer ban. Be sure the fertilizer also has manganese and iron in it. On high-pH (> 7.5) soils,

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