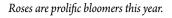
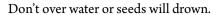
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- **THIN** as necessary. Discards the remnants to the compost bin.
- **FERTILIZE** with organic micronutrients once a plant has several leaves.
- TRANSPLANT when each plant is big enough to outgrow its planter.
- **REWARD** yourself and your children with the harvest of vegetables or flowers.

SUN SAFE TIPS:

National Sun Safety Week is June 5-11.

- **APPLY** sunscreen daily and especially before going out into the garden. Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer.
- **WEAR** a hat to protect your head and sunglasses to protect your eyes.
- **CHECK** your skin for any abnormalities and see a physician if you suspect problems.



Rhododendrons need moisture to keep healthy.

Photos Cynthia Brian

FIREPROOF YOUR GARDEN

It's probably not possible to completely fireproof any area, but follow guidelines issued by the fire protection districts to create defensible spaces no later than June 15.

- **PREVENT** embers from igniting your home in the event of a fire by clearing leaves, needles and debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks.
- **REMOVE** dead vegetation from under your deck and within ten feet of your home.
- TRIM weeds and grasses to three inches.
- **PRUNE** tree branches so that the lowest branches are between six-ten feet from the ground.
- **REDUCE** "fire fuel laddering" by pruning to separate trees from bushes.
- MAINTAIN your property and weed-whack or pull any re-growth.