

Cynthia Brian's mid-month gardening guide for April

- **VISIT** Wildlife Earth Day at Wagner Ranch in Orinda on Sunday, April 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Several community organizations will also present earth-friendly endeavors. I will be autographing my newest book, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener" as well as talking about trees, flowers, and other botanicals. For more information on this nature-lover's event organized by the naturalist guru, Toris Jaeger, visit <https://fwrna.org/wildlifefest/>.
- **ENJOY** the lilacs and wisteria in full bloom.
- **WATCH** the leaves unfurl on your deciduous trees and become more aware of how different species of trees support one another.
- **REMOVE** old foliage around the new growth of perennials.
- **PREVENT** disease and rotting by keeping mulch several inches away from stems of plants and shrubs.
- **CREATE** a habitat for birds that prefer staying close to the ground by making a small pile of twigs and clippings in your side yard. You'll attract white-throated sparrows and dark-eyed juncos.
- **ADD** a clean birdhouse to your landscape for birds to make their nests. You'll be the beneficiary of joyful tweets and twerps.
- **UTILIZE** the monthly gardening tips in the book, "Growing with the Goddess Gardener" available with free seeds, herbs, and more from <http://www.CynthiaBrian.com/online-store>.
- **FERTILIZE** fruit trees with a high nitrogen organic fertilizer. Best time is right before the bud break, although trees that need food can be fertilized through June. Don't fertilize in summer or fall.
- **PICK** tulips for indoor vases.
- **BUY** discounted baseball tickets to the June 15 Oakland A's versus Los Angeles Angels directly at <https://groupmatics.events/event/Bestar> with a portion of proceeds benefitting the 501 c3 charity, Be the Star You Are® <http://www.BetheStarYouAre.org>
- **SCATTER** pollinator friendly wild flower seeds to celebrate Earth Day.

Happy Gardening. Happy Growing.



This pine tree is stretching to be with its other pine family of trees creating an arch.

Photos Cynthia Brian



Blue, purple pink, white, and green are all part of one hydrangea.