

Tough to get irises right in local climate

BY LIZ DOUVILLE
For The Spokesman

Gardening can be complicated and frustrating at this time of year. Especially if you are new to central Oregon climate. It is also frustrating for residents who have lived here for many years and recently developed an interest in digging in the dirt.

The calendar proclaims spring is here but we are never really convinced. The temperature can be in the 70s for several days, but the fine print says there is a possibility of snow. On April 25 of last year it was cold, snowy, then thunder and rain. Nevertheless, we forge ahead wondering what we should be doing in the garden.

The first item on my to-do list is to tend to the iris bed. I never seem to get it quite right. When I pass a particular border of iris on a routine traffic pattern, sidewalk design, I admit to having iris envy. The long border is lush, the flower stalks are abundant and colorful.

I have the iris care print-out from Schreiner's Iris Garden in Salem. I decided it was time to get serious and went through the print-out point by point. I may have come up with a partial answer. The planting depth was correct with the top of the rhizome exposed and not covered. They were planted in full sun. They were planted several years ago but are not crowded.

The hints from Schreiner's were worth rereading and sharing. For best results, iris should be planted in July, August, or September. The roots need to be well established before the growing season ends. Deep watering at long intervals is better than more frequent shallow watering. Overwatering is a common error. Schreiner's recommends a 6-10-10 fertilizer early in the spring and a second light application about a month after bloom.

Avoid using anything high in nitrogen, the first number of a fertilizer formula. Ni-



File photo
Iris planting hints from from Schreiner's Iris Garden in Salem are worth checking into.

trogen encourages rot problems. Avoid using mulches, ground covers or man-made weed barriers to control weeds. Hand weeding is the best way. Covering the iris with any mulch will cause the iris to quickly rot.

After reviewing the iris care sheet, I have probably

missed the boat on properly fertilizing. I have relied too much on the soil forgetting that enriching the soil is an ongoing process. And I confess to not applying fertilizer a month after bloom. It is worth a field trip to Salem to feast your eyes on the beauty of their iris gardens.

Lilacs another source of envy

Every spring I think about replacing the lilac grove we sacrificed when we decided to build a greenhouse in that spot. The "must-have" urge worsened when I read the National Garden Bureau had declared 2022 "The year of the Lilac."

The National Garden Bureau is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to educate, inspire and motivate people to garden. Each year NGB selects one annual, perennial, bulb crop, edible and shrub. Plants are chosen because they are popular, easy to grow, widely adaptable, genetically diverse and versatile.

The lilacs probably dated back to when the property was a farm out in the country. They were the typical lavender color and smelled heavenly. I remember having frost damage one year and receiving advice from a seasoned gardener in Prineville that white lilacs were more frost resistant than the purple

varieties. Maybe I can justify my lilac purchase in the name of research and purchase a lavender variety and a white variety.

There are approximately 30 different species of lilac from early blooming to late blooming. Flower colors range from lavender, blue, lavender-blue, lavender-purple, pink and white. Some species have interesting bark or colorful fall foliage. Lilacs grow best in full sun. All are recommended for USDA Zones 3-4.

Lilacs do not require annual pruning, but cutting off spent flowerheads within a month after bloom will help the plant concentrate of preparing more flower buds for next year and not seeds.

SAVE THE DATE: Register now for OSU Master Gardeners Spring Seminar Virtual Classes every Saturday until April 23. Checkout the class offerings and schedule at <https://www.gocomga.com/2022-spring-seminar>. All classes will be offered via zoom, cost is \$5 per class.

Redmond Garden Club to host plant sale

Spokesman staff

The Redmond Garden Club's annual plant sale will be held at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 4 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. in parking lot "J."

The Garden Club will sell a variety of plants including annuals, perennials, veggies, irises, dahlias, ground covers, blueberry shrubs and more. Club members grow tomato plants and other vegetables and flowers from seed. All plants are acclimated to Central Oregon climate conditions.

The Redmond Garden Club's plant sale is in conjunction with a larger plant



COLBY BROWN
The Redmond Garden Club's annual plant sale will be June 4.

sale and gardening education event hosted by OSU Central Oregon Master Gardener Association.

There will be several other vendors in the event along with a 10 minute university presentation and an informational booth to answer all your

gardening questions.

"Since COVID began we have only had a few local sales at some of our member's homes," said co-chair of the Redmond Garden Club Darlene Nash. "But we're happy to be back at the fairground with our master gardeners and hopefully we will be able to sell quite a bit."

Nash said that this is the club's largest fundraiser each year and a lot of the funds go to help create grants for school teacher to incorporate gardening education into their classrooms.

Beside plants, the club will have a raffle sale and a garden shed full of gardening

supplies, hanging baskets and more for sale.

For more information about the plant sale go to [gocomga.com](https://www.gocomga.com).

SOLUTION

Sudoku on Page 2

2	7	4	8	6	1	3	9	5
6	5	3	4	2	9	7	1	8
8	9	1	7	3	5	4	2	6
3	1	6	5	7	4	9	8	2
4	8	7	1	9	2	6	5	3
5	2	9	6	8	3	1	4	7
1	6	5	2	4	7	8	3	9
9	4	8	3	5	6	2	7	1
7	3	2	9	1	8	5	6	4

SOLUTION

Crossword on Page 2

W	A	T	T	M	O	L	T	S	T	S	A	R		
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Please Join Us In Celebration of the Easter Season

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Holy Week & Easter Services

April 14 Maundy Thursday
5:30pm Agape Supper
6:30pm Maundy Thursday Liturgy With Foot-Washing

April 15 Good Friday
12pm Stations of the Cross (St. Helens Hall)
Labyrinth walks until 3:30 pm
2pm Good Friday Liturgy (Trinity)

April 16 Holy Saturday
8pm The Great Vigil of Easter

April 17 Easter Sunday
8am Holy Eucharist with Choir (Trinity)
10am Holy Eucharist with Choir (St. Helens Hall & on YouTube)
The Rev. Jedediah D. Holdorph, Rector
469 NW Wall St. | trinitybend.org

GOOD FRIDAY April 15th 7:00p

Special Music by Choir & Orchestra

Join us on **Sunday April 17th**

Easter at Trinity

6:18a Sunrise Worship
8:00a Easter Breakfast
9:30a Festival Worship
Kids Egg Hunt after 9:30 Worship

trinitylutheranbend.org

St. Thomas Roman Catholic Church

Redmond • 1720 NW 19 St. • 541-923-3390

Holy Thursday April 14
7 pm Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday April 15
12:10 pm Stations of the Cross
7 pm Service

Holy Saturday April 16
8 pm Easter Vigil Service

Easter Sunday April 17
Masses: 8 am & 10 am in English
Noon Misa en Español

Holy Thursday April 14 | 7pm

Good Friday April 15 | 7pm

Easter Sunday April 17 | 9am & 11am

Egg hunt at 10:15am

St. Edward the Martyr Roman Catholic Church

123 Trinity Way • Sisters • 541-549-9391 • stedwardsisters.org

Holy Thursday, April 14
Mass of the Lord's Supper • 7 PM

Good Friday, April 15
Stations of the Cross • 6:30 PM
Celebration of the Lord's Passion • 7 PM

Holy Saturday, Easter Vigil, April 16
Mass • 8:30 PM

Easter Sunday, April 17
Mass • 9 AM

bend church UNITED METHODIST

680 NW Bond • www.bendumc.com

Easter Schedule 2022

Holy Redeemer Roman Catholic Parish
541-536-3571

Holy Thursday, April 14
6:00 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper, Holy Redeemer Church, La Pine

Good Friday, April 15
12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross
6:00 pm Veneration of the Cross, Holy Redeemer Church, La Pine

Easter Vigil, April 16
8:00 pm Vigil Mass, Holy Trinity Church, Sunriver
8:00 pm Vigil Mass, Holy Redeemer Church, La Pine

Easter Sunday Masses, April 17
8:00 am Holy Trinity, Sunriver
10:00 am Holy Redeemer, La Pine
12:30 pm Our Lady of the Snows, Gilchrist
3:30 pm Holy Family, Christmas Valley

2022 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday - April 10
Normal Mass Schedule

Holy Thursday - April 14
7:00 p.m. - Mass of the Lord's Supper (Bilingual), 27th Street Church

Good Friday - April 15
12:00-3:00 p.m. - Devotions at the Historic Church
12 (noon) - Stations, Historic Church (Spanish)
2:00 p.m. - Stations of the Cross, Pilot Butte (English)
7:00 p.m. - Passion of our Lord (Bilingual), 27th Street Church

Holy Saturday - April 16
8:00 p.m. - Easter Vigil (Bilingual), 27th Street Church

Easter Sunday - April 17
Masses at 27th Street Church - 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. (Spanish)
Mass at the Historic Church: 9:00 a.m.

Main Church: 2450 NE 27th Street -
Historic Church: Corner of Franklin and Lava, Downtown
541-382-3631 | stfrancisbend.org