



July is for Celebration. In the USA we celebrate the 4th of July! But no matter where you live, we can celebrate the garden. Summer sunshine brings all our flowers into bloom and that's worth cheering for.

### In the Garden

Now that the heat of summer is here, it's time to enjoy all that is growing in your garden. Take the time to truly enjoy the flowers that are blooming. Pick yourself a bouquet...maybe one for every room in your house! Give some flowers away. Harvest your first zucchini or tomato. You have worked hard, now ENJOY!

### Simple Craft Idea

Here is a simple idea for displaying your cut flowers for yourself and to give away. Purchase a case of quart-size Ball jars and paint with chalk paint from the craft store. You will need 2-3 coats. Lightly sand the words and finish with a spray of matte sealer.

### Good Read

If you like to try your hand at fun gardening projects, you might enjoy this book for the summer. *Small Summer Gardens* by Emma Hardy is filled with small and large garden projects.

### Fun Outdoor Activity

Head to the park for a picnic. But do something different. Pack the basket with breakfast foods and go for a sunrise walk in the park before enjoying your picnic breakfast.

### Planning Ahead

To simplify your summer entertaining create a couple of easy appetizer ideas. Here are a few ideas: Hummus and veggies, Tomato Basil Brushetta or Fresh Salsa and Chips. Easy to throw together when you have a plan.

### Recipe to Make

Sometimes simple is best. This month enjoy the fruits of the season...berries. One of my favorite desserts is simple Angel Food Cake, either store bought or homemade. Pile it high with strawberries, blueberries and raspberries. Don't forget the fresh whipped cream.

### Vintage Decor

If a trip to a beach is in your summer travel plans, then you might want to collect Beach Themed decor. Keep your eyes open for special seashells, vintage sand pails and other beach related items. Summer is a great time to display these finds in your home.

### To Stay Organized

What to do with all that produce you are starting to harvest? That's the annual question gardeners face each year. Now is the time to start stocking up on canning jars, freezer bags, plastic freezer containers, pectin for jam and other storage containers you like to use.

### Inspirational Quote

We might think we are nurturing our garden, but of course it's our garden that is really nurturing us.  
Jenny Uglow