

## DON'T FORGET YOUR GREEN FRIENDS THIS SUMMER

Expert advice for your garden during the heatwave

**London, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2013.** The **heatwave** currently sending temperatures soaring around Britain could last as long as two months, with experts predicting it may well end up beating the scorching summer of 1976 for maximum temperatures and longevity.

Expert Gardener and [Ratedpeople.com](http://Ratedpeople.com) ambassador Toby Buckland outlined some essential advice for gardeners old and new during the hot weather.

Now that we know the long summer days are pleasantly filled with the sun's scorching rays; it's important to stay hydrated. When reaching for that bottle of water, don't forget to take care of your leafy friends in the garden during the hot weather:

- Flood pots are great to really soak the compost as this gets to the roots far more effectively than watering little and often.
- Avoid splashing water on the leaves of plants prone to scorch like the dark leaved succulent Aeonium 'Schwarzkopf'. It also pays to keep the foliage off roses, courgettes & pumpkins to reduce risk of fungal diseases
- If you go on holiday move pots and baskets to a shady spot - it'll mean neighbours won't have to come round quite so often to keep them ticking over
- With lawns, only water newly seeded or turfed areas - old lawns will make a comeback when it rains
- If you have to prioritise, focus on container plants, newly planted shrubs and hedges, and edibles to keep the crops coming
- If it all gets to much invest in some time-saving kit - seep hoses for borders and automatic trickle irrigation for patio planters

- ENDS -

### NOTES TO EDITORS

#### About RatedPeople.com

RatedPeople.com is the UK's largest trade recommendation service that connects homeowners with over 30,000 quality, local tradesmen nationwide.

Homeowners who are in need of a tradesman can post jobs for free on RatedPeople.com and receive quotes from up to three interested tradesmen.

Only homeowners who have found their tradesman through RatedPeople.com can leave ratings, so they are always based on genuine experiences from previous customers. These ratings, based on quality, value and reliability, allow other homeowners to confidently hire a tradesman they can trust.



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