

## **Paeonia—Peony**

Large, showy flowers set on shrub-like base. Attractive seed pods last through summer. Live for many years.

### **Growing Requirements**

Needs 4-6 hours of either morning or afternoon sun. Be sure to give them a good planting spot enriched with compost, peat moss and fertilizer when planted. Stake flower heads to keep upright or use a peony ring.

### **Planting**

Plant so the feet (or horizontal roots) are no deeper than 1 inch under the soil or they won't bloom. Too much shade or competition from tree roots may inhibit blooming. Forms clumps.

### **Care**

Cut the dry foliage in the fall and discard to avoid disease.

### **Pests/Diseases**

Deer resistant. Ants on the plants are harmless; they help open the flower buds for you. Prone to fungus and a favorite of Japanese beetles.

### **Dividing /Propagating**

Lift and divide your plants every five years in the fall when your plants are dormant (October – November in Union County.)

**Want more information?  
We're Here to Help!**



Helpline: 908.654.9852

Email: [mastergardeners@ucnj.org](mailto:mastergardeners@ucnj.org)

Website: [mastergardeners-uc.org](http://mastergardeners-uc.org)

**Rutgers Cooperative Extension**