



*Dear Ceres,*

I miss the color punch that Phlox add to my June - July garden. Is there a way I can have that splash of color later in the season as well?

The color brings joy to my being. I miss it when it fades away.

*Sincerely,*

*Sad One*

*Dear Sad One,*

There is a way to have that Joy in late summer. And it is from the Phlox already tucked in your garden. Let's get started. After the Phlox finishes blooming there is a visible seed head that does not add that much interest to the garden. Gently step in the garden to get close enough to the plant that you can see where a new sprout is beginning to emerge. This spot is just above a leaf that is attached to the main stalk. It is usually happening about 1/4 of the way down the stalk from the blossom. Cut just above this spot leaving as little stalk as possible. It will not be long before a new bud will form soon bringing forth a burst of color. You will notice that other small clusters of flowers will form below the new blossom. These small clusters make up a fresh burst of color. Enjoy!!

*Happy Gardening,*

*Stewartia*