

**Father's Day
is June 21st!**

JUNE 2015

**The GREENLEAF
NEWSLETTER**

**SHADES
OF
GREEN
INC.**

HOURS: MON - SAT 8:00 A.M. TO 6:30 P.M.
SUN 10:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M**

**(972) 890-9820
FAX (972) 377-2022
info@shadesofgreeninc.com
www.shadesofgreeninc.com**

****Standard Hours Return June 15th — 5:30pm Close Mon-Sat****



Gardens of Containment

By Leeann Knippa

As Spring comes to a close, it is time to think about updating your container gardens. Summer will be here before you know it! Shades of Green offers a great selection of pottery in a variety of colors and sizes for your entryway, around your pool or anywhere else you might need that little extra Pizazz!

Here at the Nursery, we take requests for help in creating custom pot designs as an opportunity to put together those "one of a kind" eye catching color bowls your neighbors are sure to be envious of.

Tammie, Helene, Sara as well as other staff members are available to help you pull together unique color and texture combinations for sun and shade with lots of new color arriving weekly. We also have various custom container gardens pre-planted and ready to purchase should you need a quick gift or if you need a new centerpiece for your patio table.

Stop by and we will gladly help you design your personal container creation today!

Shades of Green also carries a great selection of herbs should you need an herb pot for your kitchen.





JUNE 2015 TIMELY HINTS

PLANT...

- Heat Loving Color! Sun lovers include **Zinnias, Lantana, Periwinkle (Vinca), Pentas, Portulaca,** and **Purslane.**
- For Shade you can plant **Caladiums** (bunch them together for the best show), **Shrimp Plant, Coleus,** and **Persian Shield.**
- For tropical patio color add some **Esperanza, Mandevilla, Hibiscus, Cape Plumbago,** and **Bougainvillea** ... these will spice up your outdoor living area.
- **Plant Perennials!** You know we'll have the "RIGHT" plants for you that will provide spectacular summer color and are well-adapted.
- Container trees and large shrubs can still be planted. We recommend postponing planting large Balled & Burlapped trees until the fall due to summer's heat. Invest in a **Treegator®** bag for the best results for keeping your trees and shrubs irrigated.

PRUNE... *As necessary to shape.* Try to let plants grow naturally and "pick prune" rather than "hedge". Dead-heading flowers helps to bring on a quicker re-bloom.

FERTILIZE... It's time for the second application of **Gardenville 7-2-2.** We had numerous testimonials from customers that the Gardenville helped their turf survive the water restrictions. And now that we have had an abundance of rainfall, it will help to keep your lawn green! Use **Colorscapes** or **Color Star** on blooming plants – annuals, perennials, and especially planted color bowls and tropicals, to keep them happy and blooming all summer.

WATER... *As Needed.* We have helpful handouts in the nursery and online at our website under the "Plant Care" link. Hand-water newly planted plants daily for the first two weeks to make sure they get established. Even drought tolerant plants need this extra care in the beginning until they get settled in. Remember to use your **Treegator®** bag as an efficient watering tool on large trees and shrubs. Consider converting your planting beds to drip irrigation. Water efficient properties are going to become the "norm" just as energy efficient homes have become. You'll recoup your investment in drip irrigation along with having a nice looking landscape. Remember to have someone take care of your potted containers while on vacation. Or we can help you re-plant them when you return.

PESTS... Check shrubbery and Crape Myrtles for scale. We can help you make an informed treatment choice at the nursery. We carry **Bayer Tree & Shrub Protect and Feed** (not organic) to treat scale on your entire tree for many months. We also carry **BT (bacillus thurengensis)** to control webworms and/or bagworms. It's an organic control so it is safe around people, pets, and wildlife. Just don't apply it to host plants of those butterflies you've been admiring. Spread **Sluggo+** around plants infested with slugs, snails, or sow bugs (rolly pollies). Check newly planted trees for borers. The Bayer product mentioned above will control them up to one year.

Happy Summer!

OTHER...

- **Mulch** – to regulate soil temperatures and conserve moisture.
- **Mosquitoes** – Use **Mosquito Dunks** and **Mosquito Bits** in fountains, ponds, and gutters to kill them during their larvae stage. We have **Mosquito Sticks** that smell great and will ward off mosquitoes while outdoors while you enjoy your gardens ... and some sunshine, we hope!



VEGGIES...

- Fertilize with **Lady Bug 8-2-4 Fertilizer** or **Bloodmeal 12-0-0** for healthy growth.
- Mulch all of your veggies with compost to prevent soil particles getting on foliage and causing disease problems.
- Sprinkle **Horticultural Corn Meal** over the mulch to hinder soil borne diseases.
- Check daily and harvest in the cooler hours of the AM and PM. Remember how quick that squash can grow overnight. If you have excess, donate to local food banks.

Come Socialize
With Us!



June 1st - June 30th, 2015

NO QUANTITY LIMITS??

BUY 2 1-GALLON PERENNIALS GET 1 FREE!!!

1-Gallon Perennials Only!
May Not Be Combined With Any Other Offers or Discounts.

SHADES OF GREEN INC.

Remember To Visit www.shadesofgreeninc.com
For Promotions and Events!

Rabbits Driving You Crazy?

By Marilyn Hill

Are the rabbits driving you crazy? Well, join the club! Hardly a day goes by at Shades of Green that we aren't asked, "What can I plant that the rabbits won't eat?" I usually hesitate to answer that question because as soon as I do I'm proven wrong, even in my own garden.

Below I have listed some plants that are worth trying because they have turned up on several lists as being "rabbit resistant plants". This would be a good time to remind you that rabbits do not read lists, but these plants are worth a try. Test them out by only planting a couple of the plants you want to try. It won't take long to see if your rabbits find them to be a tasty addition to the salad bar you have provided or if they truly don't care to eat them.

Sometimes, however, even testing the plants can backfire. I have several mature "Anthony Waterer" Spireas planted in my front yard and the rabbits have never bothered them. Recently I added two new spireas (same variety) and was surprised at what happened. I'm not kidding, three days after planting my new shrubs, they looked like sticks ... not a sign of a leaf. Turns out, even if there's a mature plant the rabbits won't eat, that doesn't necessarily mean it won't be fair game when the plant is young and tender.

I have replanted the two shrubs (I really want to win this battle) only this time I have kept them sprayed with a product we sell in the nursery called Animal Stopper. Animal Stopper smells pleasant to us, it's mostly rosemary and peppermint oils, and it repels rabbits because they hate the smell. How do I know? My two new spireas haven't disappeared - yet.

Animal Stopper is available in a liquid spray for smaller areas, if the rabbits are only after a few things in your garden, or in granular form if you want to sprinkle it around a larger garden bed. And if you really want to win the battle, use both!



Here's my list. Promise not to give me a hard time if some plants prove to be yummy to your rabbits. Remember, they didn't read this list!

Annuals and Perennials

Agastache
Ajuga
Artemisia Begonia
Black-eyed Susa (Rudbeckia)
Blackfoot Daisy
Candytuft
Columbine Coreopsis
Daylily – *Stella de Oro* only
Dusty Miller
Esperanza
Gaillardia (Blanket Flower)
Germander
Impatiens
Iris
Lamb's Ears
Lamium (Dead Nettle)
Lantana
Monarda (Bee Balm)

Mexican Bush Sage
Mexican Mint Marigold
Mexican Oregano
Penstemon
Plumbago
Purple Coneflower
Red Hot Poker
Rock Rose
Rose Mallow
Rosemary
Russian Sage
Salvia (Autumn Sage)
Santolina
Scabiosa (Pincushion Flower)
Shasta daisy
Skullcap
Society Garlic
Thyme

Turks Cap
Verbena (*rabbits may eat blooms*)
Yarrow
Zexmenia
Zinnia
Oregano
Lavender
Dahlberg Daisy
Vinca (Periwinkle)

Shrubs

Buddleia (Butterfly Bush)
Boxwood
Cotoneaster
Holly
Holly Fern
Juniper
Sumac
Viburnum