

'THE SAGE'--APRIL 2010

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

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[OUR 2010 SPRING PLANT LIST](#) can be viewed on-line beginning about April 15 by clicking on **SPRING PLANTS** on the left side of our home page. This comprehensive listing contains every plant that Klein's will be offering for the 2010 season and is extremely helpful for both the home gardener and landscaper alike. The list contains fun facts, cultural information and pot or pack size for each item and comes in very handy in planning your garden this spring.

THE MAD GARDENER

"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"

Ask any of your gardening questions by e-mailing them to us at madgardener@kleinsfloral.com. Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. We've also posted a link to this e-mail address on our home page for your convenience. Your question might then appear in the **"You Asked"** feature of our monthly newsletter. If your question is the one selected for our monthly newsletter, you'll receive a small gift from us at Klein's. The **Mad Gardener** hopes to hear from you soon!

Sorry, we can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

Please note that our **Mad Gardener** is not only an expert gardener, but can answer all of your indoor plant questions as well.

FOR NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS OR GARDEN TOURS that you would like posted on our web site or in our monthly newsletters, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661 or Sue at sue@kleinsfloral.com. Please include all details, i.e. dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Our readership is ever-growing so this is a great opportunity for free advertising. Events must be garden related and must take place in the immediate Madison vicinity.

APRIL STORE HOURS:

New for the 2010 spring season, Klein's will open at 7:00 a.m. every Tuesday! Year long, Tuesday is Klein's Senior Discount Day. On Tuesdays those 62 and over save an extra 10% off all regular priced items. But beginning this spring, we'll open the doors even an hour earlier. Avoid the lines and shop early! The extended Tuesday hours last through mid-June.

Early April Hours

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00

Saturday:

9:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

Easter Sunday, April 4, we will be open 10:00-4:00.

Extended Spring Hours Begin Saturday, April 24.

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-8:00

Tuesdays:

7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Saturday: 8:00-6:00

Sunday: 9:00-5:00

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

April 2--Good Friday

April 4--Easter Sunday, Klein's will be open 10:00-4:00.

April 17--First Farmers' Market on the Capitol Square, 6:00-2:00

April 18--Beginning of Administrative Professionals Week. In appreciation to those people who make your life so much easier, have one of Klein's talented designers create for you that perfect 'Thank You.' Nothing displays your appreciation better than a lovely bouquet of spring flowers or a cheerful blooming plant. Order early. This is one of Klein's busiest delivery weeks.

April 21--Professional Secretaries' Day

April 22--Earth Day

April 24--First Day of Klein's Extended Spring Hours. The days are longer and there's lots to do in the garden. We make shopping easier to fit into your hectic schedule by offering extended retail hours from late April through much of June. Evenings are a great time to shop at Klein's. The greenhouses are cooler and the lines are short. It makes for a more relaxed shopping experience and our staff is more available to answer all your gardening questions. Look under **April Store Hours** above for more details.

April 28--Full Moon

April 30--Arbor Day

May 9--Mother's Day. Order early and shop early!!! Mother's Day is second only to Valentine's Day for deliveries and the Saturday before Mother's Day is traditionally our busiest day of the entire year. Extra drivers will be on the road Saturday, May 8 for prompt and efficient service. Click on **Delivery Information** on the left side of our home page for more details about Klein's delivery. **We will not be delivering on Mother's Day, Sunday May 9.**

May 10--This is Madison's average last frost date, but keep your eye on the weather before planting. Madison has a notorious reputation for late May frosts. Many local old-time gardeners refuse to plant, especially their

tomatoes, peppers, morning glories, etc. until Memorial Day weekend when the soil has warmed properly. Novice gardeners especially have a tendency to plant too early!

'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':

Those pesky violets that invade our yards and gardens. You wonder how you can get rid of them. But did you know that they are Wisconsin's State Flower and that each of our 50 states has their own state flower? Here's a bit of information about Wisconsin's State Flower and then a complete list of all the state flowers.

Wisconsin's State Flower--Wood Violet (*Viola papilionacea*)

Adopted on June 4, 1949.

The violet is also the state flower for Illinois, New Jersey, and Rhode Island.

Wisconsin's school children were asked to vote for an official state flower in 1908, which left four finalists: arbutus, violet, white water lily and wild rose. The following year they voted again using the four finalists and the violet won. However, the violet was only named Wisconsin's unofficial state flower until 1948. Finally, during the Centennial celebration, a youth committee was set up to officially adopt several state symbols. At this time the official flower, tree and bird were decided. On Arbor Day 1909, the final vote was taken, and the violet won. Chapter 218, Laws of 1949, which created Section 1.10 of the statutes, named the wood violet Wisconsin's official flower.

Plant Type: This is a herbaceous plant. It is variable in flower color and to a lesser extent leaf shape.

Leaves: This plant has basal leaves only. Each heart shaped leaf is bluntly toothed and born on long stem. High in vitamins A and C it used to be a very welcome raw salad or cooked green early in the spring when fresh vegetables were hard to come by. The flowers are more often used nowadays. They can be candied and also used in jellies.

Height: Less than 1'

Frequency: Many plants found in low woods. This is the violet commonly found in yards and along roadsides.

Flowers: April; It is one of the first plants to bloom in the low, wet woods of the preserve in early spring. The flowers are irregular in shape . They are Deep blue or violet sometimes almost white with blue markings. Blooms first appear in early spring and continue into early fall. The side petals have beards or tufts near the center of the flower. The flower grows on its own stem. There are also special flowers that stay near the ground and do not open...but they still produce bazillions of seeds!

Habitat: Almost anywhere. Prefers damp locations.

Range: Most of eastern US except extreme north and south.

Source: http://www.shgresources.com/resources/symbols/birds_flowers/

About State Flowers:

Before women were allowed to vote nationally, Washington State let them, and only them, vote on what people would come to associate with the state's flower for decades to come: the coast rhododendron.

In 1892, the state was one of the last to officially name its state flower. After hundreds of suggestions were put through, more than 15,000 women across the state voted in voting booth. And 53% of those women voted on the beautiful pink and white rhododendron.

That's just one example of how state flowers have defined a state, represented its history, or even helped push forward a political movement. Because shortly thereafter, women across the country began rallying to get their voices heard about political climates outside of state gardens.

The purple lilac in New Hampshire is a representation of the state's residents' hardy character. The Bitterroot became Montana's state flower only after a member of the Montana Women's Christian Temperance Union crusaded to convince the legislature to listen up, and allow all people, men and women, to vote for the flower. California's golden poppy is rooted in the state's hillsides from north to south, a beautiful yellow flower that mimics the states seemingly everlasting sunshine.

Not exactly a flower, but...

Maine's white pine cone and tassel is not a flower at all, but it was selected as the state's flower in 1894, after officials saw the cone in a floral emblem at the World Fair.

The two large divisions in the plant species are flowering plants, angiosperms, or plants with cones, gymnosperms. All other states have flowers for their actual state flower, but Maine decided to be a little different. So technically, Maine has a state gymnosperm!

Oklahoma's floral emblem, the Mistletoe, is not actually a flower either. But it is a flowering plant, which is close enough. Actually, Oklahoma is one of several states that have a state flower, a state wildflower, and a state emblem. For clarity's sake, the list is the state's official floral emblem. But most states don't differentiate between the two. Source: <http://www.plantcare.com/gardening-guides/state-flowers/about-state-flowers.aspx>

State Flowers:

Alabama--Camellia
Alaska--Forget-me-not
Arizona--Saguaro Cactus blossom
Arkansas--Apple blossom
California--California Poppy
Colorado--Rocky Mountain Columbine
Connecticut--Mountain laurel
Delaware--Peach blossom
Florida--Orange blossom
Georgia--Cherokee Rose
Hawaii--Hawaiian hibiscus (ma'o hau hele)
Idaho--Mock Orange
Illinois--Purple Violet
Indiana--Peony
Iowa--Wild Prairie Rose
Kansas--Sunflower
Kentucky--Goldenrod
Louisiana--Magnolia
Maine--White pine cone and tassel
Maryland--Black-eyed susan
Massachusetts--Mayflower
Michigan--Apple blossom
Minnesota--Pink and white lady's slipper
Mississippi--Magnolia
Missouri--Hawthorn
Montana--Bitterroot
Nebraska--Goldenrod
Nevada--Sagebrush
New Hampshire--Purple lilac
New Jersey--Violet
New Mexico--Yucca flower
New York--Rose
North Carolina--American Dogwood
North Dakota--Wild Prairie Rose
Ohio--Scarlet Carnation

Oklahoma--Mistletoe (Floral Emblem)
Oregon--Oregon grape
Pennsylvania--Mountain Laurel
Rhode Island--Violet
South Carolina--Yellow Jessamine
South Dakota--Pasque flower
Tennessee--Iris
Texas--Bluebonnet
Utah--Sego lily
Vermont--Red Clover
Virginia--American Dogwood
Washington--Coast Rhododendron
West Virginia--Rhododendron
Wisconsin--Wood Violet
Wyoming--Indian Paintbrush

DID YOU KNOW. . .

. . .that urban beekeeping is an increasingly popular hobby for home gardeners and animal and honey lovers alike?

Nationwide, there has been a growing interest in reconnecting with nature and the invaluable creatures that surround us. And with continued concern over the loss of many of our backyard pollinators, fascination with backyard beekeeping continues to explode. Getting started isn't easy, but the rewards are many. In researching, we found that Madison is actually a national leader in urban beekeeping. One of the best and most interesting articles found on-line appeared in our own Isthmus from July 2009 by David Medaris. Here is a reprint of that article:

Bees in the Hood: Urban Apiarists Colonize Madison

by David Medaris

About 15 years ago, Erich Schmidtke's father broached the idea of keeping honeybees outside Sturgeon Bay, on a farm adjacent to cherry orchards. The younger Schmidtke's response: Why not?

One answer to that question came early on. "We'd make a mistake, and the bees would be chasing us up and down the cornrows," notes Schmidtke, a fitness enthusiast who could outrun the bees. Not so his father, who would sometimes be so bee-stung that "his eyes would shut and his arms and legs would swell up. He looked like a red Michelin Man."

When his father gave up on the avocation about five years ago, he gave his beekeeping gear to Schmidtke, who for the past three years has kept two hives on his front porch on Madison's near west side.

The practice of urban beekeeping is catching on. A handful of people with whom he plays pond hockey have also established hives at their homes here. And retired chemist Jeanne Hanson, a newcomer to beekeeping, launched the Dane County Beekeepers Association early this year (2009). A dozen people attended its inaugural meeting, in March. By last month's gathering, that number had doubled.

"Everybody has a different reason for getting into honeybees," observes Hanson, who lives in the Carpenter-Ridgeway neighborhood on Madison's east side. Her own motivation: "Last summer, my husband gobbled up seven jugs of honey, five pounds each," she explains. "So then out of the clear blue sky, a woman I know said, 'Why don't you get started with honeybees?'"

Her interest piqued, Hanson attended a class for beginning beekeepers and spent the winter poring over beekeeping books at Olbrich Gardens and checking out other volumes from the Madison Public Library's "Bee Culture" subject holdings. (Her favorite: *The Honeybee*, Vernon Vickery's 1921 guide for beekeepers.)

Hanson's initial hive — containing two pounds of bees and a queen — has grown to three hives and an estimated 60,000 bees. So far, she has harvested three pounds of honey.

Most association members are, like her, new to beekeeping. About 10, however, have been keeping honeybees for three to five years. Hanson views the club as a network, a means to coordinate carpools to vendors like Lapp's Bee Supply Center in Reeseville, and for sharing knowledge and resources.

Schmidtke, who is not a member of the association, cautions that not everyone is suited to keeping honeybees. At the height of summer, he might have 200,000 bees at his two hives. "You don't want innocent neighbors getting eaten alive, so you really have to be on top of your game," he explains.

The learning curve is relentless, he adds, even for professionals. Schmidtke likens the experience to "having 10,000 or 100,000 tigers in your backyard, producing a crop. They could turn on you at any second."

Nor is beekeeping an inexpensive hobby. You can drop \$200 for a two-frame, hand-cranked centrifuge, Schmidtke says, and \$15 for a queen bee. A queen and a starter package of bees can cost \$75. Throw in hive frames, specialized tools, gloves and other accessories and you might be looking at anywhere from \$500 to \$1,000 to get started, he estimates. And if your bees don't overwinter, you'll need to buy new bees the following year.

Drugs and other treatments to prevent mites, viruses, disease and colony collapse can escalate those costs. "You can really get into a game of drugs and treatments and propping up these weak hives," Schmidtke says. "I've gotten away from that. My new strategy is tough bees. I get bees from Michigan that are super-tough. They have to overwinter in the Michigan woods three years in a row with no human intervention before they're bred."

A planning analyst who reviews boundary disputes for the state Department of Administration, Schmidtke, 40, allows that the rewards of keeping honeybees counterbalance the challenges. Even early on, up near Sturgeon Bay, he and his father enjoyed "some huge harvests — honey everywhere. Bucketloads of honey. Five-gallon buckets of honey."

All that honey took some of the sting out of their mistakes. They gave some to friends, but used much of it themselves. "We quit using sugar," he recalls, "and once you do that, you start to use a lot of honey. Like pies, there's a cup of honey right there. Granola, there's another quart."

Schmidtke's favorite honey is light clover: "It's light flavored, and when I see that honey come gushing out of the centrifuge, that's pretty cool." A few weeks ago he pulled 70 pounds of honey from one of his front-porch hives, yielding almost three gallons.

The thought of all that wholesome goodness is enough to set anyone's tastebuds to buzzing.

<http://www.isthmus.com/isthmus/article.php?article=26351>

NOTES FROM MY GARDEN JOURNAL--Tips and Observations from My Own Garden by Rick Halbach.

ENTRY: MARCH 17, 2010 (A New Favorite--Winter Aconite)

Over the past few years I've invested a bit of time, energy and money exploring the world of the smaller spring bulbs for my garden--those that are often overlooked by most gardeners in favor of the larger and showier tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and alliums, etc. Though those performers are an integral part of my garden landscape as well, it's the smaller and more diminutive members of their families that lure me into the garden each and every morning and then again, each and every afternoon after work. Because of their smaller size, they need to be observed close up to appreciate their detail. And because they bloom in quick succession, they need to be observed often, as not to miss a single performance. Hundreds of species crocus and tulips, miniature and species narcissus, squill, pushkinia and chionodoxa punctuate my lawn and garden in sweeps of

color from the time the snow melts until the time their larger and gaudier relatives steal their show later in spring. Many of these smaller bulbs self-sow and naturalize beautifully throughout my perennial and woodland beds. They are usually the earliest spring bloomers and become the first nectar source for pollinators on these warm and sunny spring days.

New to my garden this spring are the hundreds of cheery yellow winter aconite (*Eranthus*) that dot the natural areas of the yard. No flower in my garden hugs the earth closer than the winter aconite blossoms and few bloom earlier or last longer. Winter aconite can bloom for up to a full month. The waxy blooms and foliage seem nearly indestructible and are never bothered by rabbits or deer--unlike crocus and tulips. These European and Asian natives are a member of the buttercup family and are tubers, rather than bulbs. In their native homelands they thrive in deciduous forests, pushing through the fallen leaves as soon as the snow has melted. Like many of the small bulbs, they colonize areas by self-sowing. Seedlings will take up to 3 years to bloom. It was just a few years ago that I was wowed by a dense colony at some friends' house on Madison's west side. The burst of yellow nestled in their woodland garden was breathtaking and I never forgot it.

Tubers are available at many garden centers (including Klein's) in the fall and should be planted 4-5" deep as soon as possible after purchase because they do not have a long shelf life. Aconite is usually available in bags of 10 or 12 and are a bit more expensive than many bulbs, but well worth the investment.

ENTRY: MARCH 22, 2010 (Garden Inoculant)

In a few short weeks it'll be time to plant cool-loving peas and sweet peas in the garden and I realized that I've forgotten to add garden/legume inoculant to my list of supplies to pick up from work. Peas, sweet peas, as well as beans (which are planted well into May) are all legumes and help fix nitrogen into the soil. The following concise and simple explanation comes from <http://www.gardeningknowhow.com>

"Peas, beans and other legumes are well known to help fix nitrogen into the soil. This not only helps the peas and beans grow, but can help other plants later grow in that same spot. What many people don't know is that a significant amount of nitrogen fixing by peas and beans happens only when a special legume inoculant has been added to the soil.

What Is A Garden Soil Inoculant?

Organic gardening soil inoculants are a type of bacteria added to the soil to "seed" the soil. In other words, a small amount of bacteria is added when using pea and bean inoculants so it can multiply and become a large amount of bacteria.

The kind of bacteria used for legume inoculants is *Rhizobium leguminosarum* which is a nitrogen fixing bacteria. These bacteria "infect" the legumes growing in the soil and cause the legumes to form the nitrogen fixing nodules that make peas and beans the nitrogen powerhouses they are. Without the *Rhizobium leguminosarum* bacteria, these nodules do not form and the peas and beans will not be able to produce the nitrogen that helps them grow and also replenishes the nitrogen in the soil.

How To Use Organic Gardening Soil Inoculants

Using pea and bean inoculants is easy and simple. First purchase your legume inoculant from your local nursery (such as Klein's) or a reputable online gardening website.

Once you have your garden soil inoculant, plant your peas or beans (or both). When you plant the seed for the legume you are growing, place a good amount of the legume inoculants in the hole with the seed. You cannot over inoculate, so do not be afraid of adding too much to the hole. The real danger will be that you will add too little garden soil inoculant and the bacteria will not take.

Once you have finished adding your pea and bean inoculants, cover both the seed and the inoculant with soil. That is all you have to do to add organic gardening soil inoculants to the soil to help you grow a better pea, bean or other legume crop."

ENTRY: MARCH 25, 2010 (My Favorite Watering Can x5!)

Just this morning I ordered my 5th watering can from my **Gardener's Supply Company** catalog. No, I don't use five watering cans at once. Rather, the first two I ordered from them ten or more years ago are finally needing to be replaced--I think I ran over one of them with the truck last fall. The watering can I'm talking about is not your standard watering can available locally at garden centers and home improvement stores. Nope, this watering can is the epitome of watering cans! Not only does it hold 3 gallons of water (instead of the normal 2 or less) for fewer trips, but it's incredibly durable and light weight (minus the truck encounter). The handle is wrap around so the can is very easy to carry and pour--given its size. I find three watering cans invaluable when fertilizing with water soluble fertilizers. Because of its 3 gallon capacity, I can already be watering with one while the next one is filling and dissolving the fertilizer. I fertilize with the three in rotation, drastically shortening the watering time for my hundreds of containers that need regular fertilizing. This watering can is a winner and is available for \$24.95 (very reasonable) at <http://gardeners.com> or at 800/427-3363. Their print catalog is free.

KLEIN'S RECIPES OF THE MONTH--These are a selection of relatively simple recipes chosen by our staff. New recipes appear monthly. Enjoy!!

Spinach season begins locally in just a few short weeks. If you haven't already done so, it's time to get those spinach seeds into the garden a.s.a.p.! Spinach, like lettuce, is a cool season crop and should be sown outdoors as soon as the soil can be worked in the springtime. With nearly perfect and dry weather over the past few weeks, spinach is being planted up to three weeks ahead of schedule this season!

Spinach (*Spinacia oleracea*) has a very long and complicated history as a food crop. Originally from Persia, it spread to China and other parts of Asia during the 600's A.D. It was only during the Middle Ages that the Moors brought spinach to Europe via Spain. Now, varieties and types of spinach are popular in nearly every culture.

Because spinach is a cool weather crop, it must be planted into Wisconsin gardens as soon as possible in the spring. If the weather warms too quickly and as our days lengthen, homegrown garden spinach tends to bolt, flower and go into seed. Local production is best in climate controlled hoopouses where spinach can be planted as early as late winter. A fall crop can sometimes be more productive than a spring crop here in Wisconsin. Seeds should be planted about a month before the last frost date, therefore, in early September here in Madison. Fall production can be lengthened dramatically if using a cold frame--sometimes until Thanksgiving or later! Refrigerating seeds for a week before planting hastens germination. Harvest leaves often and as needed. Most often the whole plant is harvested. There are warm weather substitutes including the tropical malabar spinach (available at Klein's) and amaranthus tricolor for summer production.

The following are favorite cold spinach salads from the Klein family to yours. Some are repeats because you've asked for the recipes again.

SPINACH WITH RED ONION--Sweet and easy. Who could ask for more? From the December 2003 issue of Better Homes & Gardens magazine.

Per five servings:

1 large red onion, halved and sliced
1 TBS. butter
1/2 cup red wine
1/8 cup grenadine or boysenberry syrup
1 TBS. sugar
1/8 tsp. salt
1 x 5-6 oz. bag baby spinach
salt and pepper

In a skillet, cook the onion in butter until tender, stirring occasionally. Add the wine, syrup, sugar and salt. Bring to a boil, reduce the heat and boil, gently, uncovered, about 12 minutes or until most of the liquid is gone

and is syrupy. Meanwhile, place the spinach in a serving bowl. Spoon the onions over the spinach and toss. Reseason with salt and pepper.

SPINACH & PEAR SALAD WITH MUSTARD VINAIGRETTE--

From Cooking Light magazine, November 2004.

2 bosc pears, cored and thinly sliced

1 x 6 oz. package spinach

3 TBS. water

2 TBS. balsamic vinegar

1 tsp. sugar

5 tsp. olive oil

1 1/2 tsp. stoneground mustard

3/4 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. pepper

parmesan cheese

Combine the pear and spinach in a large bowl. Combine the water, vinegar, sugar, oil, mustard, salt and pepper with a whisk. Drizzle over the salad and toss to coat. Sprinkle with parmesan to taste.

SPINACH & BEET SALAD--Rave reviews on this recipe even from people who say they don't like beets. A very easy recipe from a July 2000 Capital Times article.

3 large beets, trimmed

salt & pepper to taste

2 TBS. balsamic vinegar

1 tsp. Dijon mustard

4 TBS. extra-virgin olive oil

1/2 cup chopped green onions

1/4 cup chopped fresh mint leaves

4 cups spinach

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine beets, salt and pepper in a roasting pan. Cover with foil and bake 1 hour or more till tender. Let cool, peel off skins and cut into 1/4" wide strips. In a bowl, whisk together the vinegar and mustard. While whisking, slowly add the olive oil. In a large bowl combine the beets, half of the vinaigrette, some salt, pepper, the onions and half of the mint. Toss to coat and let stand 30 minutes. Add the spinach and the rest of the vinaigrette and mint. Toss and serve.

SPINACH STRAWBERRY SALAD--Talk about fresh spring flavors! This favorite of adults and kids alike is from *Asparagus to Zucchini: A Guide to Farm-Fresh Seasonal Produce*.

2 TBS. sesame seeds, toasted and set aside

4 TBS. sugar

4 TBS. red wine vinegar

Minced garlic to taste

1 tsp. dry mustard

coarse salt and pepper to taste

1/2 cup vegetable oil (not olive)

2 bags of spinach

2+ cups sliced strawberries

1 tsp. dried dill

Combine the sugar, vinegar, mustard, garlic, salt and pepper in a bowl. Whisk in the oil in a thin stream. Toss together with the spinach, berries, dill and sesame seeds. Serves 8.

NEW PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT--Each month we will spotlight some new product that we already carry or one that we've taken note of and plan to carry in the near future. Likewise, if you would like to see Klein's to carry a product that we don't currently, please let us know. Our goal is to be responsive to the marketplace and to our loyal clientele. If a product fits into our profile, we will make every effort to get it into our store. In addition, we may be able to special order an item for you, whether plant or hard good, given enough time.

This month's spotlight features: ECO Bales™

"Innovation in Product and Packaging"

Klein's is very excited to be carrying this very new wood mulch product from Rivard Companies, Inc. out of East Bethel, Minnesota. It's not so much the mulch itself that makes this product unique and special, but the environmentally friendly way the product is packaged and shipped. For more information, please visit their website at: <http://www.rivardcompanies.com>

From their website:

ECO Bales represent a revolutionary new concept in mulch handling and packaging.

By tightly compressing and baling the mulch product, ECO Bale compacts three bags' worth of mulch into a single, 25-pound bale. The new product is not only much easier to carry, it also eliminates 90% of the waste commonly found in plastic-bagged products.

By virtually eliminating plastic waste, ECO Bales offer the most environmentally-friendly method for packaging mulch. In addition, their uniform shape allows higher-volume shipments (lowering delivery costs) as well as better stacking and storage. Our premium mulch bales are available in Western Red Cedar, Premium Hardwood and a variety of six different colors.

Rivard Companies wholesales ECO Bales to distributors, large nurseries, gardening centers, and landscapers across the U.S. Although still a relatively new product, ECO Bales has generated serious interest throughout the country.

NATURAL NEWS--

Longtime Klein's staff member, Sonya Kutz, is passionate about gardening! She's passionate about learning. She's passionate about natural and organic gardening. She's passionate about nature. Above all, Sonya's passionate about sharing her passions with others. Some of us coworkers (including Sonya) joke with pride about the "gardening geeks" we are. Nothing excites us more than coming to work each morning and sharing our latest discoveries from on-line or in the garden.

That's why we were very excited when Sonya turned us on to one of her favorite websites @ www.yougrowgirl.com. This super-informative, fun and enlightening site has we "gardening geeks" in mind. The site is colorful and easy to navigate with natural and organic gardening at its core. The website and its discussion forums have become a great resource for some of us here at Klein's and we hope you share in our excitement of sharing this site with you.

About **You Grow Girl™** from their website:

You Grow Girl™ was launched by Gayla Trail in February 2000 and has grown into a thriving online community that speaks to a new kind of gardener, seeking to redefine the modern world relationship to plants. This contemporary, laid-back approach to organic gardening places equal importance on environmentalism, style, affordability, art, and humor. Now in its tenth year online, **You Grow Girl™** has become a thriving community for like-minded gardeners and even self-confessed "black thumbs." The project's aim has always been to promote exploration, excitement and a d.i.y approach to growing plants without the restrictions of traditional ideas about gardening.

About **Gayla Trail**:

Gayla Trail is a writer, photographer, and graphic designer with a background in the Fine Arts, cultural criticism, and ecology. She is the creator of the popular gardening project, **You Grow Girl™**, and the author of [You Grow Girl: The Groundbreaking Guide to Gardening](#) as well as an in-demand gardening personality and spokesperson with a focus on urban gardening, growing food, sustainable living, and community.

Gayla's second book, [Grow Great Grub: Organic Food from Small Spaces](#) came out in Feb 2010 (Random House/Clarkson Potter) .

APRIL'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:

GERANIUM (PELARGONIUM)

Geraniums (Pelargoniums) are evergreen, perennial plants of South African origin that are treated as annuals here in the Midwest. When introduced to Britain, they were given the common name Geranium because of their botanical similarity to the hardy, herbaceous genus Geranium (Cranesbills), which was commonly cultivated around Europe at that time. This common name is still most widely used in North America today, although almost all the plants usually referred to as geraniums belong to the genus Pelargonium.

The geraniums that we carry here at Klein's can be classified into 4 groups: zonal, regal (Martha Washingtons), ivy-leafed, and scented.

Zonal Geraniums have rounded leaves usually marked with a distinct, dark zone and single, semi-double or double flowers. Some newer cultivars, however, do not have a zone and others have golden, white-variegated or tricolored leaves (such as our fancy-leafed geraniums). Zonals grow well in the open garden and are ideal for summer bedding since they bloom continuously from early summer till killing frosts.

Regal Geraniums (Martha Washingtons) are small shrubby plants with rounded, deeply cut leaves, and wide trumpet-shaped flowers, often in exotic colors. Many times the stiff foliage has a fragrance. They may be planted in the garden, but in our climate are best grown as container plants or houseplants. They tend not to like our summer heat and humidity and the flowers are quickly spoiled by rain. They do best on the northwest and northeast coasts or if we have a rare cool summer. They also do best given a bit of shade from the afternoon sun. Indoors they can bloom year round on a bright windowsill. Over the years they have become somewhat of a traditional Mother's Day gift but have lost favor in recent years.

Ivy Geraniums tend to be trailing pelargoniums with rounded, lobed, ivy-like leaves and flowers similar to those of zonals, available in a rich assortment of colors. They are used mainly in hanging baskets and other containers. The foliage tends to be a brighter green, sometimes variegated and sometimes with zonal markings, and have a distinctive rigid, crunchy texture. When asked for our "trailing geraniums" the ivy geraniums are the ones we usually recommend!

Scented Geraniums have small, delicate, sometimes insignificant blooms with five petals and fragrant foliage, for which they are chiefly grown. For the most part, they have only one flush of blooming, usually early in the season and should, therefore, not be recommended to the customer seeking a long-blooming bedding plant. They make very nice houseplants year round. Bruised leaves added to a glass of ice water makes a refreshing and unique summer treat!

Increasingly, there are also interspecific varieties available including the Calliope and Caliente series. These hybrids combine the positive attributes from one or more species.

All of the geraniums we sell are taken from cuttings. The rooted cuttings are ready to plant into their final pot, whereas the unrooted cuttings we receive need to be stuck into a rooting medium and allowed to root out before final planting. Many of our competitors sell seed geraniums, which are actually grown from seed. But their flowers tend to shatter easier and sooner and the flower heads tend to be less impressive than the varieties we sell at Klein's

YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER. . .

An heirloom (old) jade plant has been dropping leaves--usually about 3 down from the top. They are withered and silvery in color. The rest of the plant looks good. I also noticed some white fuzzy residue. Please advise. Mary Jo

Hi Mary Jo

"Withered and silvery in color" usually means one of two things when talking about jade plants--either the plant has been kept too wet or too dry. The symptoms for both situations appear the same and only the waterer knows the correct answer. But the fact that you mention the white fuzzy residue leads me to believe you may have a case of powdery mildew. Jade plants, especially during the winter months, can become very susceptible to powdery mildew. Powdery mildew is a very common fungus in our gardens during the summer. The fungus is easily brought indoors via infected plants or spores that come in through open windows during the summer months. Untreated, the infected jade plant usually shuts down slowly over time and eventually dies, becoming rather unsightly in the process.

Powdery mildew can be treated with fungicide, available at all garden centers. On succulents, use a very mild fungicide to avoid potential leaf drop. Test out your chosen fungicide on one branch or a few leaves first, watching for any adverse reaction. Homemade fungicides can also be made with a weak baking soda and water solution or plain milk and water adding a drop or two of dish soap to act as a "sticker". Again, I'd test anything you use on a few leaves first to watch for adverse reactions before treating the whole plant. The homemade remedies are usually not as effective as the store bought ones.

Alternatively, seeing as it's now late winter/early spring and the days are getting longer, you could now prune your plant to shape, removing all infected branches. Jade plants can annually be pruned quite hard. Then in late May, place your jade plant outdoors for the summer months (if you don't do so already). Place your plant in a shady spot for a while and slowly move it to a full sun position, thereby avoiding leaf burn. A jade plant placed outdoors during the summer will add on a lot of new and healthy growth before being brought back in next fall. A healthy, vigorous, sturdy and well-branched plant has a far better chance of fighting off the effects of powdery mildew than a weak and spindly one. Then use a weak fungicide as needed.

If you're still unsure, snip off a branch or a few infected leaves, place them in a zip lock bag and bring them to any nearby garden center for diagnosis. We can then direct you to the right products to take care of the problem.

Thanks for your question and good luck!!

The Mad Gardener

AROUND TOWN:

For neighborhood events or garden tours that you would like posted in our monthly newsletter, please contact Rick at (608) 244-5661 or Sue at sue@kleinsfloral.com. Please include all details, i.e. dates, locations, prices, brief description, etc. Events must be garden related and must take place in the Madison vicinity and we must receive your information by the first of the month in which the event takes place for it to appear in that month's newsletter. This is a great opportunity for free advertising.

Dane County Winter Farmer's Market

Saturdays, January 2 thru April 10, 8:00-noon
Madison Senior Center
330 W. Mifflin

For details visit www.madfarmmkt.org

Dane County Farmer's Market

Saturdays, April 17 thru November 6, 6:00-2:00
On the Capitol Square

Wednesdays, April 21 thru November 3, 8:30-2:00
In the 200 block of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

For details visit www.madfarmmkt.org

Olbrich Garden's Spring Pansy Sale

Saturday, April 3, 2010
From 10:00-Supplies Last

Celebrate spring with a cheery pansy, pansy, or viola grown in Olbrich's own greenhouses. Pots of pansies are \$6 each, with three plants per pot. Decorative containers are extra. Proceeds benefit Olbrich Botanical Gardens.

Pansies are cool weather plants that do best if planted in the ground. However, they also look great in a container, and make wonderful springtime gifts. Not only decorative, pansies are also edible and add a flash of color to dishes as a garnish. Or, try planting colorful pansies in a container with lettuce - it's an entire salad in one pot!

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

Orchid Sale

Saturday, April 3, 2010
From 10:00-2:30 or while supplies last

Celebrate spring with a blooming orchid plant. Sponsored by the Orchid Growers Guild. Orchid Growers Guild members will be available to answer questions. A portion of the proceeds benefits Olbrich Gardens. For information call 608-231-3163.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

Olbrich Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit-Light Gaps

April 3 thru July 11, 2010
Daily from 10:00-4:00, Sundays 10:00-5:00
In the Bolz Conservatory

The trees are trimmed and the bushes are pruned during annual maintenance in the Bolz Conservatory...now it's time to see the light in the forest! Learn about light and how plants develop and change in the forest as light fluctuates. With more than 650 plants in the Bolz Conservatory, the tropical plants compete for every sunbeam that radiates through the glass pyramid. When a gap in the forest canopy is created naturally, or by a clipping from Olbrich's Conservatory staff, new growth develops at an exceptional rate. Admission is \$1 for the general public. Admission is always free for Olbrich Botanical Society members and children 5 and under, and is free for the general public on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

Wisconsin Gourd Festival

Saturday, April 10, 2010
From 9:00-4:00

Wisconsin gourd artists show and sell their art. Also enjoy classes, demonstrations, gourd-related products and supplies, and a special place for kids to learn about and decorate gourds. The festival is free with classes offered at reduced prices to Olbrich Botanical Society and Wisconsin Gourd Society members. For more information call 608-437-1944.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

Woodland Wildflowers

Sunday, April 18, April 25 & May 2 • 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Walks from the Visitor Center

April 18: Spring ephemerals carpet the woodland floor. We may see bloodroot, toothwort, spring beauty and others along the trails in Gallistel Woods.

April 25: This can be a peak time for spring ephemerals such as trout lily and wood anemone. It is also time to look for returning migrant birds such as house wrens, brown thrashers and kingbirds.

May 2: What better way to spend a May day? Take a walk with naturalists through the woodland wildflower restorations near the Visitor Center.

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888 or uwarboretum.org/events

Olbrich Garden's Leaf Mulch Sale

Thursday, April 15, 2:00-5:00 (Members Only)
Friday, April 16, 2:00-5:00
Saturday, April 17, 9:00-12:00
Saturday, April 17, 12:00-4:00 (Load-Your-Own)
April 18-May 6, 9:00-4:00 (Load-Your-Own)
April 22, April 29 & May 6, 9:00-5:00 (Bulk Available)
April 24 and May 1, 9:00-1:00 (Bulk Available)

Buy the same leaf mulch used in Olbrich's gardens for your home garden. Leaf mulch cuts down on watering and weeding, recycles local leaves, and is credited for Olbrich's healthy looking gardens. Bags are \$6.50 each and \$40 for a tractor scoop (8-10 bags).

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison
608/246-4550 or www.olbrich.org for details

The Wisconsin Gardener

“Asparagus, Grass & Daffodils”

Thursday, April 29, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 1, 10:30 a.m.

on Wisconsin Public Television

Check local listings for the station nearest you.

Producer, Host and Master Gardener Shelley Ryan features growing and cooking with asparagus, tips for maintaining a healthy lawn and the blooming daffodils of Lodi. Horticultural educator Lisa Johnson shows viewers how easy it is to plant asparagus by adhering to a few basic rules. Executive Chef for Oconomowoc Lake Club Jack Kaestner, a proponent of preparing recipes with fresh local produce, joins Ryan in the kitchen to cook fresh asparagus, wild leeks and morel mushrooms. Growing and maintaining a healthy lawn can be achieved with a minimal amount of work and chemicals. Assistant Professor of Plant Pathology Jim Kerns joins Ryan to share some tips for keeping lawns green and lush. On a spring visit to Lodi, Ryan stops to enjoy the daffodils and discovers how the community banded together to create a living memorial with the bright yellow blooms.

For more information, visit www.wpt.org/garden

Flowering Woody Ornamentals

Wednesday, May 5, 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm

In the Longenecker Gardens

This tour, led by UW-Madison Professor of Horticulture Laura Jull, will include the yellow and little girl series magnolias, early lilacs and rhododendrons, and other spring flowering plants.

University of WI Arboretum

1207 Seminole Hwy.

Madison, WI 53711

608/263-7888 or uwarboretum.org/events

APRIL IN THE GARDEN--A checklist of things to do this month.

- Continue bringing out your cooled forced bulbs for indoor enjoyment.
- Early in the month, pot up cannas and dahlias for early growth.
- Begin removing, cleaning and storing winter bird feeders.
- Begin your summer bird feeding regimen.
- Keep birdbaths full and clean.
- Repair and put out birdhouses. Put out nesting material like pet hair & fibers.
- Seed starting is in full swing and even winding down by the end of April.
- Sterilize seed starting equipment and pots with a 1:16 bleach solution.
- Shop for summer bulbs like gladiolas, lilies and dahlias.
- Prune late summer and fall blooming shrubs.
- Do not prune spring blooming shrubs like lilacs, forsythia or viburnum.
- Continue bringing in branches for forcing: pussy willow, forsythia, quince, etc.
- Increase fertilizer to full strength by month's end (houseplants).
- Ready the lawn mower if you haven't done so already.
- Start weeding your beds. It's easier while weeds are small & the soil moist.
- Remove all winter mulch from beds.
- Remove the soil mound from around roses and mums.
- Lay soaker hoses in beds. It's easy now without plants in the way.
- Cut back all remaining perennials and ornamental grasses left from fall.
- Begin sowing seeds of larkspur, poppies and hardy annuals in the garden.
- Plant pansies, violas and calendula into the garden and containers.

- ___ Harden off your seedlings and wintered over potted geraniums.
- ___ Repair lawns by sowing grass seed. Rake the lawn.
- ___ Move cole crop transplants to the garden; broccoli, kohlrabi, cabbage, etc.
- ___ Plant onion sets and early spring crops like lettuce, spinach, carrots, beets
- ___ Begin planting perennials. Plant shrubs and trees.
- ___ Visit Klein's---the showrooms are filled with spring annuals.

Some of our very favorite seed and plant sources include:

For seeds:

- Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds @ www.RareSeeds.com or 417/924-8887
- Burpee @ www.burpee.com or 800/888-1447
- Harris Seeds @ www.harriseseeds.com or 800/514-4441
- Johnny's Select Seeds @ www.johnnyseeds.com or 207/861-3901
- Jung's Seeds @ www.jungseed.com or 800/247-5864
- Park's Seeds @ www.parkseed.com or 800/845-3369
- Seeds of Change @ www.seedsofchange.com or 888/762-7333
- Seed Savers @ www.seedsavers.org or 563/382-5990
- Select Seeds @ www.selectseeds.com or 800/684-0395
- Territorial Seeds @ www.territorialseed.com or 888/657-3131
- Thompson & Morgan @ www.thompson-morgan.com or 800/274-7333

For bulbs:

- Colorblends @ www.colorblends.com or 888/847-8637
- John Scheeper's @ www.johnscheepers.com or 860/567-0838
- McClure & Zimmerman @ www.mzbulb.com or 800/883-6998

For plants:

- Heronwood Nursery @ www.heronwood.com or 360/297-4172
- High Country Gardens @ www.highcountrygardens.com or 800/925-9387
- Logee's Greenhouses @ www.logees.com or 888/330-8038
- Plant Delights Nursery @ www.plantdelights.com or 912/772-4794
- Roots and Rhizomes @ www.rootsrhizomes.com or 800/374-5035
- Wayside Gardens @ www.waysidegardens.com or 800/213-0379
- White Flower Farm @ www.whiteflowerfarm.com or 800/503-9624

Note: To receive every possible seed, plant or garden supply catalog imaginable, check out **Cyndi's Catalog of Garden Catalogs** @ www.gardenlist.com. Most catalogs are free and make for great winter reading!

BEHIND THE SCENES AT KLEIN'S--This is a sneak peek of what is going on each month behind the scenes in our greenhouses. Many people are unaware that our facility operates year round or that we have 10 more greenhouses on the property in addition to the 6 open for retail. At any given moment we already have a jump on the upcoming season--be it poinsettias in July, geraniums in December or fall mums in May.

IN APRIL:

---Transplanting is in full swing on the transplanting line in our back greenhouses. Employees work 8-10 hour shifts planting thousands of plugs and tiny seedlings into the cell packs you purchase in the spring. Once planted, the flats move by conveyor and then monorail into the various greenhouses, all kept at different temperatures depending on the plant.

---The greenhouses and showrooms are filling fast with thousands of hanging and potted plants. We're constantly moving product around, trying to make the best use of our limited space.

---Retail items are arriving nonstop for unpacking and pricing, everything from garden ornaments and pottery to pesticides and fertilizers.

---Employees are readying the thousands of lilies, hydrangeas, azaleas, mums and spring bulbs that we deliver to the many area churches each Easter. We look forward to this time when the greenhouses are emptied to make room for our bulging spring crop.

---Product is moved from the warmth of the greenhouses to the outdoors for the hardening off process. Plants are pinched back and moved outside so they can be acclimated for spring planting in your garden. Plants that have not been properly acclimated can find the transition to full sun and temperature extremes quite difficult. You've probably noticed that many garden centers do not harden off their plants properly. Symptoms include leaf burn and root rot.

---We're readying the showrooms for the spring onslaught. Tables become fully stocked. Spring info and price signs are put into place. The last week of April is an amazing time to visit Klein's. The showrooms are jam-packed, bursting with color, awaiting the spring rush which usually begins about May 1.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE--CAROL DVORAK

Carol loves rock music; she's an avid reader; she's really into cooking; she dabbles in photography and has even taken classes. She's really into sports, especially golf, and loves fast cars. She recently picked up snowshoeing. Rather tech savvy, Carol enjoys computers and adds to her Facebook page usually once, if not many times each day. By the way, did we mention that Carol retired from Oscar Mayer nearly a decade ago after nearly forty years employment with them? Ever young, Carol is not the type to relax her way through retirement.

Carol Dvorak is a Madisonian and an east-sider through and through. She grew up in one of the neighborhoods near Oscar Mayer, raised her family in the nearby Eastmorland neighborhood and now lives with her husband, John, in their dream home in Monona.. Carol says that even now she still absolutely loves this city.

Carol remembers gardening as a very important part of her early childhood. She says that her parents owned two adjoining lots, using a vacant one exclusively for vegetable gardening. Helping pick fruits and vegetables are some her very earliest and fondest memories, though she says that her parents gardened out of necessity rather than for pleasure. They canned or stored nearly everything they grew. That was until they sold their second lot during Carol's grade school years.

In those early years, Carol's parents owned a small mom & pop grocery store named Curly's just east of Schenk's Corners. Later, they sold that business and together worked for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. It was there that she met John, her future husband. She remembers that it was all by chance. She happened to be downtown to get her driver's license and had to meet her dad at the DNR office. John also worked at the DNR. They were introduced to each other that day and the rest is history. Carol graduated from East High School in 1962, married in 1962 and got a job at Oscar Mayer in 1962 where she worked in the offices, first in engineering, then in transportation and later in customer service. She stayed with Oscar Mayer and then Kraft until her retirement in 2001. She and John have two children. She says it was while they were growing up and they owned a home in the Eastmorland neighborhood that the gardening bug bit her. With loads of sun, she says she grew it all--flowers and vegetables. She says she was "really into it".

On the other hand, Carol loved to entertain and always wanted a bigger house. That's when they made the move to Monona and bought a home surrounded by mature trees and, therefore, a lot shade. She says she didn't expect to miss the open sunshine and gardening as much as she did. Today, she says, her gardens are primarily in containers or shade plants, though she has crammed some sunlovers in the few sunny spots available.

In retirement, Carol knew from the get-go that sitting back and allowing life to pass her by was not an option. She knew she wanted to work but after 40 years, another office job was not an option. She wanted to be outdoors and active. She worked for Felly's Flowers for a while and it was while working there that she learned many of the skills that have made her a valuable Klein's employee. Next came a position that fell into her lap

with the Wisconsin Sports Development Corporation. Though a position she says she loved, her 20 hour per week job morphed into a 60 hour per week commitment. It was simply too many for an avid golfer!

Then came Klein's. Carol says she simply had this need to grow plants again and get her hands dirty. She really missed gardening and needed to surround herself with flowers again. She says that reading about Klein's on our website and about the people who work here made her want to become a part of that team. Initially, she picked up her application in October, but was told to come back in February when we might be hiring for spring. She held her breath and waited. February came and Carol started with Klein's in March 2008. She remembers walking in for her interview and feeling a very positive vibe from the staff--a sense of enthusiasm and happiness. It all felt very positive and very right.

At the start, Carol was hired in a seasonal greenhouse position. But as the years have passed and to keep her fingers in the dirt, Carol now works year round--transplanting in the early spring, on the retail floor through the early summer and then a few shifts at the counter during the winter months. Her versatility and flexibility have made her invaluable to us. She says that her plant knowledge is exploding in leaps and bounds and she's learning something new every day. Carol says that she especially loves the creative license the job has allowed her and the encouragement from her coworkers to create something beautiful. She says she delights in experimenting with color and texture when prepping outgoing orders. But other than work and family nothing delights her more than that good game of golf.

PERMANENT FEATURES-- **KLEIN'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

Have our monthly newsletter e-mailed to you automatically by signing up on the right side of our home page. We'll offer monthly tips, greenhouse news and tidbits, specials and recipes. . .everything you need to know from your favorite Madison greenhouse. And tell your friends. It's easy to do.

THE MAD GARDENER--"Madison's Firsthand Source for Expert Gardening Advice"

Ask us your gardening questions by e-mailing us at madgardener@kleinsfloral.com. Klein's in-house **Mad Gardener** will e-mail you with an answer as promptly as we can. The link is posted on our home page and in all newsletters.

We can only answer those questions pertaining to gardening in Southern Wisconsin and we reserve the right to leave correspondence unanswered at our discretion. Please allow 2-3 days for a response.

FACEBOOK

Klein's has joined the Facebook frenzy. Become a fan of Klein's by visiting us at www.facebook.com.. We continuously post company updates and new pictures

SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT

We offer a 10% Off Senior Citizen Discount every Tuesday to those 62 and above. This discount is not in addition to other discounts or sales. Please mention that you are a senior before we ring up your purchases. Does not apply to wire out orders or services, i.e. delivery, potting, etc.

BUCKY BOOK COUPON

Klein's is again showing our proud support of community UW athletics and academics with advertising and coupons in the 2010 edition of the Bucky Book. We are also selling the 2010 edition in-store--the perfect gift Visit www.buckybook.com for more information and to order your copy.

RECYCLING POTS & TRAYS

The City of Madison will recycle rinsed out hard plastic pots and trays when brought to their drop-off locations at 4602 Sycamore Ave. and 1501 West Badger Rd. They do not accept light plastic or multi-celled packs. White plastic #5's are also not accepted in city recycling bins or at the drop-off sites. For more information call 267-2626 or visit www.cityofmadison.com/streets/RigidPlasticRecyclingDropOff.cfm

KLEIN'S "BLOOMING PLANT OR FRESH FLOWER CLUB"

Send or receive 3 month's, 6 month's or a whole year's worth of seasonal blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements and SAVE!!

There's no easier way to give gorgeous blooming plants or fresh flower arrangements, month after month. Each month a seasonal blooming plant or fresh arrangement will arrive on yours or a loved one's doorstep. You choose the start date and we'll make your special delivery the very same day each month.

For just \$75, \$150 or \$300, respectively, we'll send 3 month's, 6 month's or a year's worth of seasonal blooming plants--perhaps a bulb garden or azalea in the spring, one of our famous large geraniums or a tropical hibiscus in the summer, a chrysanthemum or Thanksgiving cactus in the fall or one of our homegrown poinsettias or cyclamen for the holidays and winter months. Selection of the blooming plant will be based on availability.

And for just \$90, \$175 or \$350, respectively, receive one of Klein's lovely fresh floral arrangements. All arrangements will be seasonal and will contain only the freshest flowers. All arrangements are **Designer's Choice**, but are sure to satisfy the most discerning lover of fresh flowers.

Prices include delivery within our delivery area. Enclosure cards will accompany each delivery if desired. For delivery details visit the "**Permanent Features**" section of our newsletter below. If your chosen delivery date happens to fall on a Sunday or holiday, we will deliver it on the next available delivery day. All regular delivery conditions apply.

Join our **Blooming Plant or Fresh Flower Club** by calling Klein's at **608/244-5661** or **888/244-5661** or by stopping in. We request that payment be made in full before the first delivery and prices do not include sales tax.

DELIVERY INFO

Klein's Floral and Greenhouses delivers daily, except Sundays, throughout all of Madison and much of Dane County including: Cottage Grove, DeForest, Fitchburg, Maple Bluff, Marshall, McFarland, Middleton, Monona, Oregon, Shorewood Hills, Sun Prairie, Verona, Waunakee and Windsor. Current delivery rate on 1-4 items is \$6.95 for Madison, Maple Bluff, Monona and Shorewood Hills, slightly more to the surrounding communities and for more than 4 items. We not only deliver our fabulous fresh flowers, but also houseplants, bedding plants and sundries. A minimum order of \$25.00 is required for delivery. Delivery to the Madison hospitals is \$4.95. Deliveries to the four Madison hospitals are made during the early afternoon. There is no delivery charge to funeral homes in the city of Madison, although regular rates apply for morning funeral deliveries to Madison's west side. Regular rates also apply for funeral deliveries in the surrounding communities.

Morning delivery is guaranteed to the following Madison zip codes, but only if requested: 53703, 53704, 53714, 53716, 53718 and Cottage Grove, DeForest, Maple Bluff, Marshall, McFarland, Monona, Sun Prairie, Waunakee and Windsor. We begin our delivery day at 8:00 a.m. and end at approximately 4:00 p.m. Except during holidays, the following west-side zip codes and communities can be delivered only during the afternoon: 53705, 53706, 53711, 53713, 53717, 53719, 53726, Fitchburg, Middleton, Oregon, Shorewood Hills and Verona. During holidays (Christmas, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, etc.) we are able to make morning deliveries to all of the above areas. We are not able to take closely timed deliveries on any holiday due to the sheer volume of such requests. It's best to give us a range of time and we'll try our absolute hardest. Orders for same day delivery must be placed by 12:30 p.m. or by 2:30 p.m. for Madison zip codes 53704 and 53714. We do not deliver to Cambridge, Columbus, Deerfield or Stoughton.

DEPARTMENT HEADS: Please refer all questions, concerns or feedback in the following departments to their appropriate supervisor.

Phone: 608/244-5661 or 888/244-5661

Floral Department Manager

Kathy Lehman

kathy@kleinsfloral.com

Grower, General Manager Jamie VandenWymelenberg

jamie@kleinsfloral.com

Assistant Manager

Jennifer Simon

jsimon@kleinsfloral.com

House Accounts & Billing Barbara Foulk

barb@kleinsfloral.com

Delivery Supervisor

Rick Halbach

Owner & Manager

Sue Klein

sue@kleinsfloral.com

RELATED RESOURCES AND WEB SITES

University of Wisconsin Extension

1 Fen Oak Ct. #138

Madison, WI 53718

608/224-3700

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/>

<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/wihort/>

Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

Dept. of Plant Pathology

1630 Linden Dr.

Madison, WI 53706

<http://www.plantpath.wisc.edu/index.php>

Insect Diagnostic Lab

240 Russell Labs

1630 Linden Dr.

Madison, WI 53706

<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/>

U.W. Soil and Plant Analysis Lab

8452 Mineral Point Rd.

Verona, WI 53593

608/262-4364

<http://uwlab.soils.wisc.edu/>

American Horticultural Society

<http://www.ahs.org/>

Garden Catalogs (an extensive list with links)

<http://www.gardenlist.com/>

also <http://www.mailordergardening.com/>

Invasive Species

<http://www.invasive.org/>

Friends of Troy Gardens

Rm. 171, Bldg. 14

3601 Memorial Dr.

Madison, WI 53704

608/240-0409

<http://www.troygardens.org/>

Community Gardens Division (Madison area)
Community Action Coalition
1717 N. Stoughton Rd.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4730

<http://www.cacscw.org/gardens/>

Madison Area Master Gardeners (MAMGA)
<http://www.madison.com/communities/mamga/>

Wisconsin Master Gardeners Program
Department of Horticulture
1575 Linden Drive
University of Wisconsin - Madison
Madison, WI 53706
608/265-4504
<http://www.hort.wisc.edu/mastergardener/>

The Wisconsin Gardener
<http://www.wpt.org/garden/>

Allen Centennial Gardens
620 Babcock Dr.
Madison, WI 53706
608/262-8406
<http://www.horticulture.wisc.edu/allencentennialgardens/>

Olbrich Botanical Gardens
3330 Atwood Ave.
Madison, WI 53704
608/246-4550
<http://www.olbrich.org/>

Rotary Gardens
1455 Palmer Dr.
Janesville, WI 53545
608/752-3885
<http://www.rotarygardens.org/>

University of WI Arboretum
1207 Seminole Hwy.
Madison, WI 53711
608/263-7888
<http://uwarboretum.org/>

University of Wisconsin-West Madison
Agricultural Research Center
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PLANTS POISONOUS TO CHILDREN:

Children may find the bright colors and different textures of plants irresistible, but some plants can be poisonous if touched or eaten. If you're in doubt about whether or not a plant is poisonous, don't keep it in your home. The risk is not worth it. The following list is not comprehensive, so be sure to seek out safety information on the plants in your home to be safe.

- Bird of paradise
- Bull nettle
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Crocus
- Daffodil
- Deadly nightshade
- Dieffenbachia (dumb cane)
- Foxglove
- Glory lily
- Hemlock
- Holly berry
- Indian tobacco
- Iris
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Lily of the valley
- Marijuana
- Mescal bean
- Mexicanes
- Mistletoe
- Morning glory
- Mountain laurel
- Night-blooming jasmine
- Nutmeg
- Oleander
- Philodendron
- Poison ivy
- Poison sumac
- Pokeweed
- Poppy
- Potato
- Privet
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Water hemlock
- Wisteria

PLANTS POISONOUS TO PETS:

Below is a list of some of the common plants which may produce a toxic reaction in animals. This list is intended only as a guide to plants which are generally identified as having the capability for producing a toxic reaction. Source: The National Humane Society website @ <http://www.humanesociety.org/>

- Aconite
- Apple
- Arrowgrasses
- Autumn Crocus
- Azaleas
- Baneberry
- Bird-of-Paradise
- Black locust
- Bloodroot

- Box
- Buckeye
- Buttercup
- Caladium
- Carolina jessamine
- Castor bean
- Chinaberry tree
- Chockcherries
- Christmas berry
- Christmas Rose
- Common privet
- Corn cockle
- Cowbane
- Cow cockle
- Cowsliprb
- Daffodil
- Daphne
- Day lily
- Delphinium (Larkspur)
- Dumbcane
- Dutchman's breeches
- Easter lily
- Elderberry
- Elephant's ear
- English Ivy
- European Bittersweet
- Field peppergrass
- Foxglove
- Holly
- Horsechestnut
- Horse nettle
- Hyacinth
- Iris
- Jack-in-the-pulpit
- Jerusalem Cherry
- Jimsonweed
- Lantana
- Larkspur
- Laurels
- Lily of the valley
- Lupines
- Mayapple
- Milk vetch
- Mistletoe
- Monkshood
- Morning glory
- Mustards
- Narcissus
- Nicotiana
- Nightshade
- Oaks
- Oleander
- Philodendrons
- Pokeweed
- Poinsettia
- Poison hemlock

- Potato
- Rhododendron
- Rhubarb
- Rosary pea
- Sago palm
- Skunk cabbage
- Smartweeds
- Snow-on-the-mountain
- Sorghum
- Star of Bethlehem
- Wild black cherry
- Wild radish
- Wisteria
- Yellow jessamine
- Yew