

## **'THE SAGE'--JUNE 2010**

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

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## **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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

## **JUNE STORE HOURS:**

**Through June 20:**

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-8:00

Saturday: 8:00-6:00

Sunday: 9:00-5:00

**After Father's Day, June 20:**

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

**Open Sunday, July 4: 10:00-4:00**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS:**

**Throughout June**, visit Klein's and check out our specials on annuals, vegetables, herbs, hanging baskets and containers. Specials and selection change weekly so give us a call for the most up-to-date information at (608) 244-5661 or toll free at 888-244-5661. We pride ourselves in having the best cared for plants in even the hottest weather and throughout the month we'll continue to offer a full selection of annuals and perennials.

**June 14**--Flag Day

**June 21**--Father's Day

**June 21**--First Day of Summer

**June 26**--Full Moon

## **'THE FLOWER SHOPPE':**

You've just received a lovely bouquet of fresh flowers for your birthday, as a thank you, a new birth or maybe just because. Inherently some flowers last longer than others. Long-stemmed roses, on the one hand, might last only a few days, whereas carnations can sometimes last up to two weeks. Last month we looked into how to keep your flowers fresh as long as possible. This month we'll explore more detailed care of some of our most beloved fresh cut flowers. The following comes from our friends at FTD @ [www.ftd.com](http://www.ftd.com).

## **CARE TIPS FOR SPECIFIC FLOWERS:**

### **CALLA LILIES**

The picture of elegance, this unique form of the flower can bloom in a standard or miniature size, as well as, a rich variety of colors. Calla Lily's should be handled delicately as the bloom tends to bruise easily. Also, once this bloom is cut, it will no longer unfold, therefore, the best and more costly Calla Lily is one that is at the peak of its blossoming. Average life span: 5-7 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: White, Yellow, Plum, Lavender, Pink, Green, Peach, and Orange.

### **CHRYSANTHEMUMS**

Chrysanthemums bloom in many forms, including: daisy-like, pompons, or buttons. Blossoming in a wide array of colors and sizes, these flowers are popular for their long life span and ability to easily lend their textures and beauty to a mixed bouquet, yet make an exceptional bouquet on their own. Average life span: 7-8 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range - White, Green, Yellow, Lavender, also, rich Fall colors including Burgundy, Bronze and Butterscotch, as well as, plenty of bicolored varieties.

### **DAFFODILS**

Daffodils are an extremely popular and well-loved flower but they release a substance harmful to other flowers. Because of this they are best kept to themselves when used in arrangements. If they are included in a mixed bouquet, separate the daffodils and soak separately overnight and then introduce them back into your arrangement. Average life span: 5 days. Seasonality: December — April. Color Availability: Yellow, White.

### **GERBERA DAISIES**

Available in a bright variety of hues, these beautiful and cheerful flowers are known to be very heavy water drinkers with sensitivity to fluoride. With this in mind you may want to use a purified water source for your bouquet. Your bouquet may arrive with a straw around each stem. It is best to leave this straw on while for the first 4-5 hours while initially hydrating to create a straighter stem. Average life span: 5 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range - White, Red, Yellow, Orange, Pink, Peach, Fuchsia and some bicolored varieties.

### **HYDRANGEAS**

Hydrangeas are known for their beautiful cloud-like blooms and appeal in both mixed bouquets and on their own. They are quite emotional though, and need constant hydration, as the blooms will immediately wilt when without a water supply. They are usually delivered with a water pack around the bottom of the stem to help with hydration during shipping, but will need to be thoroughly hydrated as soon as they arrive. Average life span: 5-7 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: White, Light Blue, Violet, Pink.

### **IRISES**

Irises come in many forms, shapes, colors and sizes, though the most popular colors are a deep purple or yellow. The iris usually arrives in bud stage, but after 1-2 days of hydration the bloom will unfurl and open gracefully creating a grand bouquet fit for royalty. Average life span: 6 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range - Blue, Yellow, White, Pink, Purple, Brown, Red, and Black.

### **GLADIOLUS**

Most known for their sword-like shape and wide array of color, gladioli create a dramatic bouquet of height and beauty. Average life span: 7-8 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range - White, Red, Orange, Pink, Fuchsia, and Lavender.

### **LILIES**

These fragrant flowers are a symbol of purity and grace accentuated with each flower-filled stem. There are three main types of lilies: Asiatic, Oriental or LA Hybrids. Asiatic Lilies tend to have a smaller bloom, but come in a vast array of colors. Oriental Lilies have a large bloom and a stronger fragrance and tend to last longer than the other varieties. LA Hybrid Lilies have a medium sized bloom and tend to last a little longer than an Asiatic Lily. Most lilies arrive with 3-5 blooms per stem, making them a dramatic and impressive bouquet. As the blooms open, it is best to remove the pollen from anthers when the blooms open with a tissue and discard as it can stain clothing. In the event the pollen does get on any fabric try to remove it with cellophane tape, never with water, which would set the stain. Average life span: 5-7 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range – White, Pink, Yellow, Orange, Burgundy, and plenty of bicolored varieties.

### **ORCHIDS**

These blooms bring an exotic elegance to any bouquet with numerous flowers bursting from each stem. Known for their longevity, orchids are a beautiful way to express your sentiments. Average life span: 7 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Purple, White, Pink, Fuchsia, Orange, Jade, and Burgundy.

### PERUVIAN LILIES

These bright multicolored flowers contribute to a lush and full bouquet. They are known for their long-lasting blooms, but they tend to dehydrate easily. If wilting, check the water level and, once hydration levels are maintained, they will perk up within the next 8-12 hours. Average life span: 7-8 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range - Pink, Purple, White, Yellow, Red, and plenty of bicolored varieties.

### ROSES

Roses are possibly the most recognizable and beloved flowers most known for their soft scent and vast array of colors and varieties. These flowers may arrive with guard petals surrounding the outside of the bloom. These petals were left on to protect the bloom during shipment and should be removed to increase the beauty of your bouquet. Also, if a rose wilts and becomes limp, remove it from the vase and re-cut the stem under water. Place the flower into warm water with dissolved flower food until the bloom becomes firm. The flower can then be included once again within the bouquet. Remember, roses are thirsty flowers. Check the vase daily to replenish absorbed water. Average life span: 7 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Red, White, Pink, Fuchsia, Lavender, Jade, Cream, Peach, Yellow, Orange, Burgundy, and plenty of bicolored varieties.

### SUNFLOWERS

A favorite flower for many, the sunflower brings a cheerful disposition to any bouquet. Sunflowers tend to be a thirsty flower, so it is best to be vigilant of the water level in your vase to insure a longer life for you bouquet. Average life span: 5-7 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Yellow with brown center and some dyed varieties.

### TULIPS

Tulips are one of the most popular flowers of all time and come in variety of colors, heights, and flower shapes. Be aware that these flowers can grow almost an inch daily even when cut and naturally bend towards the light. Your tulip bouquet may have a natural curve to the stems, leaning gracefully off the lip of the vase. When your tulips first arrive it is best to keep them in the protective wrap while hydrating for the first 4-5 hours to create a straighter stem. Average life span: 5 days. Seasonality: Year-round. Color Availability: Wide range - Red, White, Pink, Fuchsia, Purple, Cream, Orange, Peach, Yellow and plenty of bicolored varieties.

### DID YOU KNOW. . .

**. . .that many of Wisconsin's most cherished wildflowers are equally treasured in the mixed flower border or cottage garden?**

The words 'wildflower' and 'weed' are by all means not synonymous and many, many of our most lovely roadside 'weeds' make the perfect addition to any low maintenance garden. By definition, most Wisconsin wildflowers are inherently low maintenance in the sheer fact they are meant to be here. They tolerate our cold winters, crazy seesaw springs and hot and humid (and sometimes very dry) summers. They thrive where many domesticated species wither under those same conditions. Many wildflowers are magnets for beneficial insects, butterflies and birds. Though many wildflowers can become 'aggressive' in the garden, they are at least not 'invasive'. While so many of our garden perennials have come from other parts of the world and are crowding out or even destroying our native species, Wisconsin's wildflowers are meant to be here by design and perhaps will find a home in your garden--by design.

The following is a list of common and readily available perennial Wisconsin wildflowers available at most well-stocked garden centers. While we encourage the use of Wisconsin wildflowers in the garden, PLEASE do not dig up wild plants. Though beautiful to look at, many Wisconsin wildflowers are becoming increasingly rare. Wildflowers available at garden centers have been propagated from domesticated stock and are not harvested in the wild.

Agastache foeniculum (Giant Blue Hyssop)  
Allium cernuum (Nodding Wild Onion)  
Allium stellatum (Prairie Onion)  
Amorpha canescens (Lead Plant)  
Anemone canadensis (Canada Anemone)  
Aquilegia canadensis (Columbine)  
Arisaema triphyllum (Jack-in-the-Pulpit)  
Asarum canadense (Wild Ginger)  
Asclepias incarnata (Swamp Milkweed)  
Asclepias syriaca (Common Milkweed)  
Asclepias tuberosa (Butterfly Weed)  
Aster divaricatus (White Wood Aster)  
Aster novae-angliae (New England Aster)  
Aster oblongifolius (Aromatic Aster)  
Baptisia australis (False Indigo)  
Caltha palustris (Marsh Marigold)  
Campanula glomerata (Clustered Bellflower)  
Campanula rotundifolia (Harebell)  
Echinacea angustifolia (Purple Coneflower)  
Echinacea purpurea (Purple Coneflower)  
Eupatorium maculatum (Joe-pye Weed)

Eupatorium purpureum (Sweet Joe-pye Weed)  
Fragaria virginiana (Wild Strawberry)  
Geranium maculatum (Wild Geranium)  
Helenium autumnale (Sneezeweed)  
Heliopsis helianthoides (False Sunflower)  
Iris pseudacorus (Yellow Flag Iris)  
Iris versicolor (Blue Flag Iris)  
Liatris aspera (Rough Blazing Star)  
Liatris ligulistylis (Meadow Blazing Star)  
Liatris pycnostachya (Purple Blazing Star)  
Lilium superbum (Turk's-cap Lily)  
Lobelia cardinalis (Cardinal Flower)  
Lobelia siphilitica (Blue Cardinal Flower)  
Lupinus perennis (Wild Lupine)  
Mertensia virginica (Virginia Bluebell)  
Monarda fistulosa (Wild Bee Balm)  
Opuntia humifusa (Prickly Pear Cactus)  
Petalostemum (Dalea) purpureum (Prairie Clover)  
Phlox divaricata (Wild Blue Phlox)  
Podophyllum peltatum (Mayapple)  
Polemonium reptans (Creeping Jacob's Ladder)  
Ratibida pinnata (Yellow Coneflower)  
Rudbeckia hirta (Black-eyed Susan)  
Rudbeckia laciniata (Green-headed Coneflower)  
Rudbeckia triloba (Thin-leaved Coneflower)  
Sanguinaria canadensis (Bloodroot)  
Silphium laciniatum (Compass Plant)  
Silphium perfoliatum (Cup Plant)  
Solidago canadensis (Canada Goldenrod)  
Solidago rigida (Stiff Goldenrod)  
Tradescantia occidentalis (Spiderwort)  
Tradescantia ohiensis (Ohio Spiderwort)  
Trillium grandiflorum (Large-flowered Trillium)  
Verbena hastata (Blue Vervain)  
Vernonia fasciculata (Ironweed)  
Veronicastrum virginicum (Culver's Root)

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

### **ENTRY: May 22, 2010 (The Bluest of Blue Bluet)**

The appearance of the magnificent blue whorls of my perennial bachelor's buttons (*Centaurea montana*) signifies to me each year that the garden is transitioning from spring into summer. The last of the spring bulbs, the alliums, are just beginning to pop. The daffodils' foliage is beginning to yellow and is becoming increasingly hidden by the perennials that are now towering above them. Tulips are only a memory. The last of the Virginia bluebells are beginning to fade. The garden is now awash in shades of blues and purples--blue flax, woodland phlox, star willow, dame's rocket, spiderwort, big betony, false indigo, iris, cranesbills, catmint and salvia. But the bluest blue is now owned by bachelor's buttons.

I've been a lifelong fan of 'Mountain Bluet', the official common name for *C. montana*. My grandmother had numerous patches on the family farm and it was one of the first pass along plants from my partner's mom 25 years ago. I've never needed to purchase a new plant since because *C. montana*, though short-lived, self sows nicely. There have always been a few clumps here and there throughout the garden. Never invasive, the shallow rooted plants are very easy to move to wherever I need to see that burst of intense blue. If I cut the plant back after flowering, I'm due for a repeat bloom in just a few weeks.

OOPS . . .made a mistake! Looking into the garden I see one of last year's purchases--a new *Centaurea montana* and a new favorite--Gold Bouillon. That striking blue set against the bright chartreuse foliage is breathtaking! WOW!

Another of my favorite perennial bachelor's buttons is the *Centaurea dealbata* 'Steenbergii' that I picked up at The Flower Factory a number of years ago. This dwarf version of the species Persian bachelor's buttons was a bit slow to get started, but is now a sizable clump with frilly rose-pink, white centered blooms. The bees love it!! Again, when cut back after this initial bloom, it will bloom again later in the summer and into fall.

### **ENTRY: MAY 24, 2010 (Butterflies Arrive Enforce)**

The summer-like weather of the past few days has brought out a summer-like flood of insects to the garden (including a few mosquitoes). Most notable to me is the simultaneous appearance of nearly every kind of common butterfly in just a few short days. The cabbage butterflies had made their appearance in April with that first burst of warm weather. They were the only butterflies in the

garden until just this week. Now the garden is frequently visited by red admirals, painted ladies, mourning cloaks, the dark version of the female tiger swallowtail and yesterday I saw my first monarch/viceroy.

I really enjoy inviting butterflies to the garden by incorporating their favorite food sources into the landscape. My hope is that the females find my garden suitable to lay her eggs. As often as possible I try to provide host plants on which the caterpillars can feed before they form their chrysalis and ultimately change into butterflies. Favorite caterpillar and adult host plants for our most common species include:

**Black Swallowtail Caterpillars**-- All parsley family relatives including, Queen Anne's lace, carrot, dill, fennel and celery  
**Black Swallowtail Adults**--Thistles, milkweed, clover

**Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Caterpillars**--Wild cherry, birch, willow, cottonwood, ash  
**Eastern Tiger Swallowtail Adults**--Purple coneflowers, Brazilian vervain

**Monarch Caterpillars**--All milkweeds  
**Monarch Adults**--Milkweeds, liatris, goldenrods, ironweed, lantana, clover, thistles, purple coneflower, Brazilian vervain

**Mourning Cloak Caterpillars**--Willows, elm, cottonwood, birch  
**Mourning Cloak Adults**--Tree sap and rotting fruit are their favorites.

**Painted Lady Caterpillars**--Thistles, hollyhocks, mallows and legumes  
**Painted Lady Adults**--Thistles, asters, liatris, joe-pye weed, clover, milkweeds, clover, privet

**Red Admiral Caterpillars**--All nettles  
**Red Admiral Adults**--Asters, milkweed, clover, lantana (also tree sap and rotting fruit)

**Viceroy Caterpillars**--Willows, poplars, cottonwoods  
**Viceroy Adults**--Asters, goldenrod, joe-pye weed, thistles (but also dung, carrion and aphid honeydew)

#### **ENTRY: MAY 25, 2010 (Cute & Harmless Spittle Bugs)**

The spittle bugs have appeared slightly ahead of schedule this spring and we're already getting questions at work about how to get rid of them. It's so sad that most people don't know that inside all of that foam is one (or more) of the cutest little bugs they'll ever see.

In my garden, spittle bugs (sometimes called spit bugs or frog hoppers) are mostly found on salvias, feverfew, garden phlox and just a few other plants. The bug inside the 'spit' is actually just a nymph; a stage on this insect's path to adulthood. The foam is simply its protective shell to keep predators at bay and to keep them moist and warm during that portion of its life cycle. Spittle bug eggs can hatch only during humid weather--hence their earlier than usual appearance.

I really enjoy showing kids what's inside all that foamy goo. There we find a green, wide-eyed little creature that's so cute, it's hard not to fall in love with it once you've taken the time to look at it closely (perhaps an idea for future Pixar character here?!?!).

Though the spittle bugs are feeding on the plant juices, they cause no permanent harm to the plants. The plant's growing tip sometimes becomes a little contorted during the few weeks they are feeding--usually in early June. After the nymphs leave, the plants grow as normal--sometimes with better branching because of the minor damage they caused to the growing tip (similar to a light pinch). There's no reason to use pesticides on spittle bugs. At Klein's, we tell our customers that if they feel the need to get rid of them, they should simply squash the foam between their fingers. That usually becomes difficult once they've seen the cute and endearing little creatures inside the spit.

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

The parsley debate rages on . . . probably due to single-handedly to Martha Stewart's TV show in the 1990's. Should one use flat leafed Italian or curly leafed parsley in a recipe? Truth is, there is no correct answer!! Which to use is simply personal preference. While to many cooks the flat leafed Italian is the only choice with its well-rounded and milder parsley flavor, the curly leafed variety gives recipes a stronger and tangier parsley flavor and the plant looks far prettier in the garden! In fact, the curly leafed variety makes a lovely accent plant when added to mixed annual containers. Both are beloved host plants to swallowtail butterfly caterpillars; as are all members of the carrot family.

Parsley is a biennial; producing foliage the first season and flowering in the second. Though as any gardener knows, under certain stressful conditions, parsley will flower during the first season, producing a bitter and somewhat woody plant. Parsley is equally at home in containers and in beds. This native to the Mediterranean prefers full sun and rich and moist soil to perform at its best. Parsley is very, very healthy and is high in both vitamins A and C. It also contains high amounts of minerals, especially iron.

Parsley is delicious fresh on green salads or stirred into pasta salads. It adds color and flavor to cooked recipes, but must be added during the last few minutes of cooking to maintain color and texture. And as we Wisconsinites well know from our supper club visits, parsley is the king of garnishes on steaks, prime rib, fish or on relish platters.

**A Tip:** An easy and not so messy way to chop parsley (and almost any herb) is to place the parsley in a glass measuring cup and snip it with a pair of scissors or kitchen shears until desired size is reached.

**PARSLEY SAUCE FOR GRILLED STEAK**-- Made for an Oscar night get together, one of our employees raves about its simplicity and flavor.

1 clove garlic, chopped  
1 cup loose packed parsley  
1/4 cup extra virgin olive oil  
3 TBS. water  
Salt & pepper to taste

In a blender or small processor, puree the garlic, parsley, oil and water until smooth. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Makes about 1/2 cup.

**PARSLEY WALNUT PESTO**-- This extremely versatile recipe from the April 2008 issue of Cooking Light magazine is delicious on cooked salmon or chicken or simply stirred into pasta, rice or soups.

3 cups loose packed parsley  
1/2 cup chopped and toasted walnuts  
3 TBS. extra virgin olive oil  
1 TBS. lemon juice  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
3 cloves garlic, chopped

Combine all ingredients in a processor or blender and combine until smooth, scraping the sides as necessary. This recipe freezes well so it's a great way to use up a lot of parsley and have during the winter months.

**PARSLEY PASTA SAUCE**--A rich and flavorful sauce that is similar to a creamy pesto. Another great recipe from From Asparagus to Zucchini: A Guide to Farm-Fresh Seasonal Produce.

1 lb cooked pasta  
1 cup+ packed chopped parsley  
1/4 cup olive oil  
2 tsp. dried basil  
1 1/2 tsp. dried marjoram  
1 tsp. dried oregano  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 cloves garlic  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
1 cup sour cream  
1/4 cup grated parmesan  
Sunflower seeds

While cooking the pasta, prep the sauce. In a processor, process the parsley, oil, basil, marjoram, oregano, salt, garlic and pepper until the parsley is finely chopped. Add the sour cream and the parmesan and puree. Place the mix in a saucepan and heat until it is almost, but not quite boiling. Serve over hot pasta and sprinkle with sunflower seeds.  
Serves 8.

**TABOULEH**--This classic Middle Eastern salad uses parsley as one of it's main ingredients. There are many recipes to be found, but this one from Jane Brody's Good Food Book remains a favorite of ours.

For the salad:

1 cup bulgur  
2 cups boiling water  
2 tomatoes, finely diced  
1 bunch green onions, finely chopped  
1 cup finely chopped parsley  
3 TBS. chopped mint (or 2 tsp. dried if fresh isn't available)

For the dressing:

1/4 cup fresh lemon juice  
2 TBS. extra virgin olive oil  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. pepper  
1/4 tsp. dried oregano  
1/4 tsp. ground cumin  
a dash of allspice (optional)  
a dash of coriander (optional)

In a bowl, soak the bulgur in the boiling water for 1 hour. Drain the bulgur well, pressing out the excess water through a fine sieve or cheese cloth. In a bowl, combine the bulgur, tomatoes, green onions, parsley and mint. Whisk together the dressing ingredients in a

small bowl. About an hour or less before serving, add the dressing to the bulgur mix and toss to coat the ingredients thoroughly. Serves 6-8.

**COUSCOUS SALAD**--Reprinted from the couscous package. Tastes like a very mild tabouleh. Prepare the dressing and toss with the following ingredients in a large bowl.

3 cups prepared couscous (12 oz. dry)  
9 green onions, chopped  
3 medium tomatoes, chopped  
1 large cucumber, seeded and chopped  
3/4 cup garbanzo beans, drained and rinsed  
1 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley

For the dressing:

1 cup extra virgin olive oil  
3 cloves minced garlic  
1 1/2 tsp. Dijon mustard  
1 1/2 tsp. ground coriander  
1 1/2 tsp salt  
Fresh ground black pepper to taste

Serves 10-12

**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: Rain Barrels-Cascata Rain Water & Storage System from Algreen Products**  
[www.algreenproducts.com](http://www.algreenproducts.com)

### **"Saving water never looked so good"**

A contemporary rain barrel urn made by Algreen Products which holds 65 gallons - this environmentally friendly rainwater urn is the perfect addition to any yard. Dry, brown grass is never attractive in a yard and this rain barrel will help save rainwater for when your lawn and garden need it most: those hot, dry days of summer.

The Cascata rain barrel urn combines the timeless aesthetic elegance of ceramics with the enduring longevity of modern plastics. The Cascata is made of a roto-moulded plastic that is able to withstand extreme temperature and will not chip, crack, or fade.

The 65-gallon rainwater urn has a corrosion-proof screen guard and comes with a unique and easily removable crown planter on the top - double walled for extra strength and durability. There is an overflow valve, a hook for hanging the garden hose and an elbow connector to connect to the 6" Garden Hose with shutoff valve.

The rain barrel is easy to install and ready to go in minutes! All you need is a flathead screwdriver. To install, simply thread the elbow connector into the hole at the bottom of the rain barrel. Place the clamp over one end of the included hose, then place the same end of the hose over the elbow connector. Tighten the clamp for a secure fit.

These gorgeous and functional rain barrels are available at Klein's while supplies last. Hurry on in before summer weather hits. We have just a few left in stock!

## **NATURAL NEWS--**

### **'Geraniums May Be the Key to Controlling Japanese Beetles'**

In reading the May/June issue of **The American Gardener** magazine, a publication put out by the **American Horticultural Society** ([www.ahs.org](http://www.ahs.org)), we came across a fascinating little article titled '**Geraniums May be the Key to Controlling Japanese Beetles.**' With the beginning of the Japanese beetle season almost upon us, we found it timely to share what we found on-line in doing some research on the topic. It's fascinating stuff and who knows what the future holds for an organic way to ward off or control our rampant Japanese beetle population. Keep in mind that this research is only in its infancy.

The following portion of an article comes from the Agricultural Research Service branch of the United States Department of Agriculture and was published in March 2010 in **Agricultural Research** magazine ([www.ars.usda.gov](http://www.ars.usda.gov)).

### **Geraniums: New Research on Old Garden Favorites**

Some insect pests are very specialized—usually feasting on one crop. Many are named after that one particular crop that they ingest most—like pickleworms, melonworms, and sweetpotato weevils. Unfortunately for growers of ornamentals, soybean, maize, fruit, and vegetables, the Japanese beetle is not a picky eater. It feeds on nearly 300 plant species in almost 80 plant families.

The beetle, *Popillia japonica*, is by far the most destructive pest of ornamental and turf plants in the eastern United States, with more than \$450 million spent each year to control it and replace damaged plants.

But there is hope, since there is one plant that the hungry little critter may want to avoid—the geranium, *Pelargonium zonale*. Though its lovely, colorful flowers are very attractive for all and profitable for growers, the flowers are deadly to the beetles. Within 30 minutes of consuming the petals, the beetle rolls over on its back, its legs and antennae slowly twitch, and it remains paralyzed for several hours. When paralyzed under laboratory conditions, the beetles typically recover within 24 hours, but they often die under field conditions because predators spot and devour them.

The poisoning effect of geranium flowers on beetles is not a new discovery; it has been reported in scientific papers dating back to the 1920s. But the phenomenon has not been studied in depth—how or why it happens—until recently, when Agricultural Research Service scientists in Ohio picked up where scientists left off more than half a century ago.

Currently, Chris Ranger, an entomologist in the ARS Application Technology Research Unit in Wooster, is working on a natural, botanical formulation for controlling the beetles based on paralytic compounds isolated from geraniums. Patent rights are being pursued. Ranger is collaborating with Ajay Singh, a natural products chemist from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

And more from the University of Kentucky at [www.research.uky.edu](http://www.research.uky.edu):

### **Binged-Out Beetles** by Jonathan Riggs

Another round of geranium petals seems to be the order of the day for thrill-seeking Japanese beetles. It seems that after feeding on these petals, Japanese beetles get so intoxicated that they pass out for 12 to 18 hours. In the wild, this can be a lethal binge.

Drawing on research done in the 1920s, UK entomologists Daniel Potter and David Held have been studying this phenomenon, trying to figure out what exactly in the geranium causes such a powerful reaction.

Since the Japanese beetle feeds on 300 plants and 79 plant families, including many plants grown for profit or pleasure, researchers are always looking for new, earth-friendly methods of controlling them. The geranium's knockout punch offers an intriguing possibility.

"We found that when Japanese beetles fed upon the petals of geranium, generally in less than an hour the bugs enter a kind of narcotic state," says Potter. "They curl up on their back and pull their legs close to their underside. They'll twitch if you disturb them, but they're clearly in dreamland."

Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Potter and Held have found that plants grown in full sunlight pack more of a culinary wallop for Japanese beetles.

And the bugs seem unable to resist temptation. When researchers gave beetles who had never encountered a geranium a choice between the nutritious linden plant and the mind-blowing geranium, the beetles overwhelmingly chose geranium and ended up staring up at the sky. Each time the beetles recovered, they chomped down another helping of petals and all but ignored the healthy choice.

Potter's team reared pairs of beetles in boxes with soil so that they could lay their eggs. One group received the healthy linden leaves, one group received the geranium petals, and one group received an equal amount of both.

"As one would expect, the group that got the linden leaves lived long and happy lives and laid a large number of eggs," says Potter. "Both groups with access to geranium spent the better part of this two-week experiment on their backs in a narcotic state, had a much higher mortality rate, and laid very few eggs."

Unlike certain caterpillars, Japanese beetles seemed unable to learn. In fact, each time they recovered from a geranium-trip, they would consume almost 10 times the previous amount before becoming intoxicated.

In theory, an insect that views nature as its personal buffet, like the Japanese beetle, should be able to learn from this type of bad experience.

"Of course, we're presuming this is an unpleasant experience for the Japanese beetle," says Potter. "Clearly their nervous system is being affected and perhaps that's compromising their ability to learn. It certainly has some parallels to human addiction, although I don't think it's quite the same phenomenon."

With the help of plant chemists at Boyce Thompson Institute at Cornell University, UK researchers are testing various geranium chemicals on the beetle-favorite Virginia creeper, and they've been able to duplicate the geranium's narcotic effects. Potter says that by this coming summer they'll have identified the exact extract.

This knowledge should prove useful in further Japanese beetle control research.

"One of my goals is to understand the insect better," says Potter. "I think if you understand the biology of a pest insect, it opens up new avenues for management that are environmentally more responsible."



Japanese beetle management is serious stuff—almost all of the states east of the Mississippi River except Florida suffer tremendous financial damage from the ravenous insects. This research is part of the USDA's effort to prevent the Japanese beetle from spreading to the western United States, where it could devastate such economic mainstays as the California vineyards.

The Japanese beetle's behavior makes it an interesting insect to study, Potter says.

"I really like the Japanese beetle. It's my bread and butter insect. It's a great bug, sort of The Terminator of the insect world."

## **JUNE'S PLANT OF THE MONTH:**

### **TIGER EYES® SUMAC (Rhus typhina 'Bailtiger')**

A new twist on an old roadside and prairie favorite, this is not your typical staghorn sumac! Tiger Eyes® sumac is a relatively new addition to gardens and has taken the shrub world by storm. Unlike its native cousin, Tiger Eyes® sumac has stunning golden foliage all summer long but with the same brilliant orange and red foliage in the fall and then fruits that add interest throughout the winter months.

Cuttleaf staghorn sumac is native to all of the eastern U.S. and southern Canada. It's an opportunistic shrub and is one of the first shrubs to appear in disturbed areas, roadsides and abandoned fields. The species spreads by both runners and seed and becomes very aggressive when not properly controlled. Though beautiful in the landscape, new plants that pop up from the spreading rootstock are easily pulled as they appear. Left uncontrolled, sumac can take over an area in short order. Historically, frequent wildfires prevented sumacs from becoming overly aggressive on the prairies and savannas.

Tiger Eyes® sumac, on the other hand, is far tamer than the species. Golden foliated plants are in themselves tend to be less aggressive than the species. Plants remain smaller than the species and the spreading occurs at a far slower rate. With such a beautiful plant, some spreading is desired and sumacs look their best when clustered in small groves. Sumacs serve nicely as a backdrop to the perennial garden and work well with other prairie natives such as coneflowers, black-eyed susans, blazing star, goldenrod, milkweeds and grasses. The fall color is unsurpassed!

Due to its small size and extreme hardiness, Tiger Eyes® sumac also works well as the focal point in large containers, combined with blue, purple, pink, orange or chartreuse.

Tiger Eyes® sumac grows to 6' tall, prefers moist, well-drained soil and is very drought tolerant. Plant in full sun for best foliage color. Plants are available in two sizes at Klein's while supplies last.

## **YOU ASKED THE MAD GARDENER. . .**

**We have two clematis vines planted about 15' apart on either side of a trellis. Following the 88°F day last Sunday, one of the plants has wilted quite a bit (blooms and leaves). Prior to this, both plants were doing great. Does this sound typical of clematis? Todd**

Hi Todd,

Were these clematis that were just planted this spring, or are these plants that were put in before this season? Clematis are notoriously difficult to get started, but once established, they are very long lived perennial vines. At the greenhouse, we often tell customers to expect a few failed attempts at getting a clematis started. If after the third time they fail, we tell the customer that the problem could be a bad location or soil type.

Clematis require full sun to flower best, yet they require "cool feet"; meaning the area where the vine meets the soil needs to be shaded. As the vine grows, it accomplishes this on its own. But initially, shading the base of the plant requires our help by planting other plants in front of the clematis. One can use either annuals or perennials to achieve this, depending upon one's goals.

Clematis also prefer an alkaline soil. If your soil leans toward acidic, you may have to add a bit of lime to the soil to neutralize it. Soils in the Midwest tend to be naturally alkaline, but oak or pine trees can alter the make up just enough to make the soil incompatible with the clematis.

Whether a new or established clematis, inspect the base of the plant for damage before assuming that the heat caused it to wilt. Because clematis stems are woody and very brittle, they oftentimes snap at the base when bumped by a garden tool, lawn mower or children's toys, especially if the plant is young. Rabbits, squirrels, chipmunks and woodchucks can also cause damage to the base of the plant. If the vine has been damaged at the base, it may resprout again in a little time.

Clematis wilt is another possibility. Clematis wilt is a very common fungal problem where all or part of the plant simply shuts down after already greening up for the season. On an established plant, simply cut away the infected parts. The fungus only affects the tops of the plant and the clematis will readily resprout from down below. On newly planted clematis the effects are more detrimental and the plant may not be able to recuperate. Large flowered varieties seem to be more easily infected than small-flowered and heirloom varieties. Adding garden sulfur (a natural fungicide) appears to be the best solution to remedy this situation.

As for the heat, 88° should be OK for a clematis to thrive. With cooler weather coming over the next few days, the clematis should perk up again if the problem was heat related. Many plants wilt down during the hot parts of the day only to perk up once the hottest part of the day has passed. Please let me know what you find out!

I hope this was of some help and thanks for your question!

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](mailto: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 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](http://www.madfarmmkt.org)

### **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](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **2010 Summer Concert Series at Olbrich Gardens**

Let the beauty of Olbrich Botanical Gardens set the perfect stage for a night of music. Bring a lawn chair or blanket, and spread out for a picnic surrounded by Olbrich's lush flowers. Or, purchase a brat or hot dog from the Madison East Kiwanis. Picnics are allowed in the Gardens for the Tuesday concerts only. In case of rain, concerts will be held indoors. A \$1 donation is suggested. Concerts are sponsored by the Olbrich Botanical Society.

Olbrich Concerts in the Gardens 2010 Schedule:  
(All concerts are on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.)

#### **June 1**

Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestra--Orchestral Favorites

#### **June 8**

Elliott Funmaker and the Wisconsin Dells Singers--Native American Music

#### **June 15**

Tony Brown--Reggae

#### **June 22**

Mark Croft--Acoustic Music

#### **June 29**

Madison Municipal Band--Concert Band Favorites

**July 6**

Capitol City Band--Band Favorites

**July 13**

Magic Mama--Family-friendly Hip-Hop & World Beats

**July 20**

New Horizons Swing Band--Swing Music

**July 27**

Rigel--Celtic Rock

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
608/246-4550 or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

**Hosta Sale**

Sunday, June 6, 10:00-1:00 or until supplies last  
Sponsored by the Wisconsin Hosta Society

Pick up some interesting hostas to add to your collection at the Wisconsin Hosta Society's Plant Sale. These shade-loving perennials, prized for their interesting foliage, come in a variety of sizes, shapes, and colors. For more information call 608-443-4281.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
608/246-4550 or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

**Rhapsody in Bloom**

Saturday, June 19, 5:00-10:00  
One of Olbrich Gardens' biggest fundraisers.  
For reservations call 608/246-5616 (SOLD OUT!)

Enjoy an evening filled with breathtaking gardens, fantastic cuisine and lively Latin music at Rhapsody in Bloom on Saturday, June 19 from 5 to 10 p.m! Dazzle your taste buds on hors d'oeuvres buttered throughout the Gardens while sipping on cool refreshing cocktails. Let the jazzy tunes of Opan Jii, a Latin quartet, soothe your mind as you gaze in awe at the kaleidoscope of colors in the Gardens.

A silent plant auction will deliver the adventure of bidding on amazing container gardens created especially for this event by Olbrich's horticulture staff. This year's auction will also showcase new garden related items, including a very exclusive opportunity at the Gardens that will be auctioned live during dinner.

Guests can expect topnotch service as dinner is served under a grand white on the Great Lawn. To top off the exquisite meal - a decadent slice of key lime pie served with coffee and side of cozy conversation with your company.

As dinner concludes and the evening sky twinkles, QUE-FLAVOR!'s rhythms will move your feet to the beat. A quick and easy salsa lesson will refresh the guests taking away all of the stress!

Brilliant bromeliad centerpieces will splash color on your dining table. These wonderful tropical centerpieces will be available for purchase in the lobby as the evening draws to a close.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
608/246-4550 or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

**Madison Rose Society Rose Show**

Sunday, June 20, 12:30-4:00  
Free Admission  
Call 608/834-6439 for details

The Madison Rose Society hosts this indoor exhibit of cut roses and arrangements in all sizes and colors. Members of the Rose Society will be available to answer questions. Stroll through Olbrich's two acre Rose Garden.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison

608/246-4550 or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

## What's Blooming

Wednesday, June 23, 7:00-8:45 p.m.  
At the Native Plant Garden

Find, compare and learn about flowers on native trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants, and see what's new in our collection of plants native to southern Wisconsin.

University of Wisconsin Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Hwy.  
Madison, WI 53711  
608/263-7888 or [uwarboretum.org/events](http://uwarboretum.org/events)

## **JUNE IN THE GARDEN**--A checklist of things to do this month.

- By early June, finish planting all annuals and vegetables.
- By early June, move all houseplants out that spend the summer outdoors.
- In early June give all beds a thorough weeding for easier follow-up.
- June is a great month to plant perennials, trees and shrubs.
- Prune evergreens.
- Prune hard any spring flowering shrubs like forsythia, quince, etc.
- Mulch beds to conserve moisture and keep down weeds.
- Begin deadheading spent blooms as needed.
- Remove yellowed foliage of spring tulips, daffodils, etc.
- Begin staking and supporting tall plants as needed.
- Begin your fertilizing regimen. Regular fertilizing makes for healthy plants.
- Order spring bulbs from catalogs while your memory is still fresh.
- Keep an eye on the weather. Water as needed.
- Watch for pests and control as needed or desired.
- Begin seeding cole crops for fall harvest. Also sow pansies and wallflowers.
- Pinch hardy mums until July 4 for bushier less floppy plants.
- Visit Klein's--Watch for end of season savings on annuals and perennials.

Some of our very favorite seed and plant sources include:

### **For seeds:**

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

### **For bulbs:**

Brent & Becky's Bulbs @ [www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com](http://www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com) or 877/661-2852  
Colorblends @ [www.colorblends.com](http://www.colorblends.com) or 888/847-8637  
John Scheeper's @ [www.johnscheepers.com](http://www.johnscheepers.com) or 860/567-0838  
McClure & Zimmerman @ [www.mzbulb.com](http://www.mzbulb.com) or 800/883-6998

### **For plants:**

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

---The back greenhouses are nearly empty of product. We've had another successful season. This is the time to plan for next spring--while our memories are still fresh: How can we improve in 2011? Which plants did we run out of too early? How was staffing?

---Watering is a nonstop endeavor. On hot, windy days, we no sooner finish the first round, when we have to start all over again. Some plants in our retail areas may need watering 3 or 4 times in a single day! You wouldn't do this at home, but customers don't like to see wilted plants. It's not harmful for us to let them wilt a bit, but it makes for bad presentation.

---We continue to plant some annuals, hanging baskets and containers for summer sales. Our summer "Jumbo Pack" program is under way.

---Fall mums and asters are stepped up into larger tubs and containers for fall sales.

---We begin prepping some of the back greenhouses for the arrival of poinsettia plugs in just a few weeks.

---Our employees breathe a sigh of relief and spend some much needed downtime with family and friends.

#### **EMPLOYEE PROFILE--BARB SPARKS**

Some may say it was fate that brought Barb Sparks to Klein's, others may say it was perseverance. Barb first applied for work at Klein's while a university student back in 1974. She had taken three botany courses at the university. The desire to learn about plants was there. The years passed, family came along and grew up, the stars had realigned themselves and thanks to the recommendation of one of our fellow greenhouse associates, Mark Anderson, Barb happily joined the Klein's team in the spring of 2007. Oh, by the way, Barb's maiden name is Cline. Fate?

Is the love for gardening nature or nurture? In Barb's case, she says the latter is certainly the case, for nobody in her family has a green thumb. Neither of her parents, nor any of her six siblings would be considered a gardener by nature, though she says that her grandmother had a talent for growing African violets. After moving to Appleton, WI from Detroit, MI, Barb says her mother attempted a family vegetable garden with considerable success. After graduating from Appleton West in 1972, Barb moved to Madison to attend the UW. She says that while living in Sellery Hall on campus her interest in plants surfaced. She enjoyed shopping for houseplants at the nearby Choles Floral on University Avenue. After a few years at the university, Barb ultimately received an associate degree in clothing and textiles from Madison Area Technical College. Not surprisingly some of her current hobbies include sewing, quilting and decorating her home.

Barb and her husband, Will, built their lovely DeForest home approximately 18 years ago. Her extensive gardens, which evolved from a completely barren lot, can now be described as an urban woodland. One of the very first things she and Will did was to plant over 125 trees and shrubs. Many have now matured to the point where they have created the perfect woodland hideaway. She says they designed their garden to be viewed from their home looking out, blocking the view of the neighbors, rather than the typical landscaping around the foundation, surrounded by extensive lawns. In fact, Barb says if Will could have it his way, the entire lawn would be garden with no grass.

Barb says she's very lucky to have a partner who shares in her love of gardening. Will enjoys the mechanics of gardening--building new flower beds and enlarging and improving the old beds. Barb's interest is in the plants themselves. Perennials have historically been her forte. But she says working at Klein's has opened her eyes to the wonderful world of annuals. Barb especially loves all the tropicals now available. Favorites include: dipladenia, mandevilla, duranta and especially hibiscus. Her favorite perennials are those that are somewhat unique with striking foliage--those that stand out in their woodland setting, including: hostas, lungwort (pulmonaria), heuchera, tiarella, astilbe and grasses. Barb says she approaches gardening in a realistic, rather than idealistic way, through trial and error. At work, Barb is the eternal student. She enjoys learning about gardening from both her coworkers and customers alike, listening to the barrage of questions and answers each day. At the end of the day, Barb, like most of her coworkers, finds it hard to leave work empty-handed, needing to learn first hand about all those new perennials and annuals Klein's carries. Maybe Will will get his wish regarding the lawn. Time will tell.

#### **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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto:kathy@kleinsfloral.com)  
Grower, General Manager Jamie VandenWymelenberg  
[jamie@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:jamie@kleinsfloral.com)  
Assistant Manager  
Jennifer Simon  
[jsimon@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:jsimon@kleinsfloral.com)  
House Accounts & Billing Barbara Foulk  
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### **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  
8502 Mineral Point Rd.  
Verona, WI 53593  
608/262-2257  
<http://www.cals.wisc.edu/westmad/>

#### **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