

## 'THE SAGE'--JUNE 2012

Klein's Floral & Greenhouses On-Line Newsletter

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Klein's 4th Annual Most Beautiful Garden Contest

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### KLEIN'S 4TH ANNUAL MOST BEAUTIFUL GARDEN CONTEST

Think you have the **Most Beautiful Garden**? Perhaps all of that hard work and creativity can literally pay off by entering our **Most Beautiful Garden Contest**. We invite you to submit photographs along with our entry form to Klein's via e-mail or snail mail by September 1. Winners are selected by our staff and will be announced on our website in early September. Prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places include gift cards for a Klein's shopping spree. We have a separate category for container gardens.

They say pictures say a thousand words and sometimes the most simple of designs says more than the most elaborate. Please visit our home page at [www.kleinsfloral.com](http://www.kleinsfloral.com) for details and entry information.

### 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 [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com) 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 17:**

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-8:00

Saturday: 8:00-6:00

Sunday: 9:00-5:00

### **After Father's Day, June 17:**

Monday thru Friday : 8:00-6:00

Saturday: 9:00-5:00

Sunday: 10:00-4:00

**Open Wednesday, 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](tel:6082445661) or toll free at [888-244-5661](tel:8882445661) or on our home page @ [www.kleinsfloral.com](http://www.kleinsfloral.com). 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 4--Full Moon**

**June 14--Flag Day**

**June 17--Father's Day**

**June 20--First Day of Summer**

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

Now that our growing season is in full swing, **locally grown fresh flowers** make up a large portion of the seasonal bouquets sold here at Klein's. The quality of locally grown product is unsurpassed and we are proud to work hand in hand with other members of our local business community. The vast majority of our locally grown fresh flowers is supplied to us by Fair Field Flowers from Mt. Horeb. For many a Monday over the years, Joe Schmitt has stopped by Klein's with his truck brimming with seasonal blooms.

### **About Fair Field Flowers**

Fair Field Flowers is a cooperative partnership of experienced producers of floral material. We provide the freshest and highest quality local and sustainably grown product available to florists and other floral retailers.

Our flowers and other unique floral materials are grown in the deep, rich prairie soils of South Central Wisconsin and distributed in Madison and Milwaukee and surrounding areas.

### **How Fresh?**

At Fair Field Flowers, we are serious about fresh. We cut your flowers when you need them, at the peak of their perfection, straight into water. No overnight trips in cardboard boxes, no long waits in the sun on airline loading docks, no fumigation, middlemen, brokers or consolidators. In Wisconsin we know Fresh.

### **How Local?**

Each flower we sell is from a plant we grow ourselves. Here. Just down the road. No fuel was burned jetting from Ecuador or Holland. No diesel consumed on the long, long haul from California or Florida. And everything is grown by folks with deep roots in the local economy and community. Local growers serving your local business, providing the freshest flowers and the best service. That's what we mean by Local.

### **How Sustainable?**

Our sustainable growing methods create the safest product for consumers, the healthiest conditions for our growers, and the gentlest use of our land. Instead of relying on chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides, we implement crop rotations, selective cultivars, diverse cover crops, wild margins, compost-based fertilizers, and we closely monitor our crops. In addition, we use only organic inputs. That's Sustainable.

Please visit Fair Field Flowers website at <http://fairfieldflowers.biz>.

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

**I have a bed of about 8 tulips and all of them had leaves, but only two of them ended up with flowers. Do you have any idea why the others didn't bloom? Thanks for any help. Faye**

Hi Faye,

You don't say whether they were planted last fall or if they've been in a while.

There are a number of reasons tulips don't bloom. If the tulips have been in for a few years, that is probably the reason. Most tulip varieties lose their vigor as the years pass; producing blooms for usually 2-5 years. There are some varieties that naturalize reliably. Apeldoorns are one such variety. But color choices and flower form are limited.

If the bulbs were planted last fall, the three most common reasons for lack of bloom are that the bulbs were planted too deep, are in compacted/bad soil or are in too much shade (i.e. on the north side of a building).

Thanks for your question.  
The Mad Gardener

### **DID YOU KNOW . . .**

**. . .that the "spring planting season" no longer ends with the summer solstice, but now continues until the first fall frosts?**

Yes, it's true. Gardening in the Madison area has changed drastically during the past two decades. As recently as the mid-90's, Madison area gardeners essentially stopped adding plants to their gardens, once the hot days of high summer unfolded. Nowadays, people continue planting throughout the summer months.

**The biggest change has occurred in the continued buying and planting of annuals.** Gardeners now realize that as the season progresses, it's never too late to add fresh color to gardens and containers. Gardeners are willing to replace the spring blooming pansies and dianthus with heat tolerant petunias and verbena or fill in the holes left by hungry rabbits or other failures. The modern Wisconsin gardener wants their garden to look great all season long--even during the peak heat of summer.

Summers here are short and with gardening being America's number one pastime, Wisconsinites are now wanting to take advantage of every minute we can spend outside. Enclosed garden rooms, gazebos, screen houses and bug zappers have added to this trend by allowing us to spend more time outside surrounded by our gardens. Another trend is the continued planting of annuals well into fall. Cold tolerant plants now flood the market: nemesia, diascia, osteospermum, wallflower and winter hardy pansies, among others--along with mums, kales, grasses. The Madison garden can now be full of color well into November.

Klein's has been a local leader in recognizing and expanding upon these trends.

In the early 90's, shoppers had pretty much disappeared by July 4. Local greenhouses offered little more than overgrown, thirsty, leftover annuals at rock bottom prices.

**NO MORE!** More than 10 years ago we began our summer "Jumbo Pack" program with amazing success. We now offer fresh, healthy, colorful annuals well into midsummer. The large cell pack size allows for vigorous growth and great moisture retention. These plants are perfect for quick color in tired containers or beds. We offer a full spectrum of heat tolerant annuals: petunias, salvia, impatiens, zinnias, etc., and a fantastic selection from the 'Proven Winner' line. The list goes on and on and on! In addition, we continue planting up gorgeous patio pots and hanging baskets. Planning an event? Selling a house? Klein's is your one stop shopping experience for instant beautification. We also offer a great selection of tropicals--all of which thrive in our summer heat and humidity.

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

### **ENTRY: MAY 2, 2012 (The Tale of a True Survivor)**

I share yet another example of how warm this record-setting winter and spring have been. A butterfly bush (Buddleia) survived the winter in my backyard out of the ground in a container. It not only survived, but has leafed out all the way up its six foot branches!

At Klein's, we tell customers that they should look at their butterfly bushes as hardy annuals rather than the shrubs they are. Though borderline hardy southern Wisconsin, butterfly bushes usually make it through most winters given protection and snow cover. During the worst winters, however, they won't survive without some protection. In most winters, the tops die back to the ground (or the snow line) and we advise gardeners to prune back the dead wood. Plants then resprout from the ground in most cases.

A number of years back I purchased a butterfly bush and had it growing in a large container. I overwintered the plant at Klein's and would move it back home again each spring. Eventually it outgrew its container and last year I decided to plant it in a very large above ground planter in the backyard. It grew to be huge last summer and bloomed beautifully. Come fall, I decided to let it go and pull it out in the spring; once the roots had deteriorated a bit over the winter--never expecting it to survive out of the ground.

To my absolute amazement, green sprouts appeared at the base of the trunk during that warm spell in March. Even more amazingly the stems eventually leafed out to the very tips with no dieback! I had no intent of having a butterfly bush in that planter again this summer. On the other hand, there's no way I have the heart to pull out this extreme example of survival.

### **ENTRY: MAY 16, 2012 (Fume & Noise-free Tilling)**

Late last fall during bulb planting, my nearly 15 year old Mantis tiller finally bit the bullet. As the years passed it had become increasingly difficult to start. Getting it started at the beginning of the season had become quite a workout. And though the Mantis had performed beyond my expectations over the years, it was perhaps time to mull over other options. I used the winter months to do research on other tiller options and to decide whether I wanted another Mantis. Then I came across an article in one of my gardening magazines about the many benefits of an electric tiller. The thought of an electric tiller versus a gas tiller intrigued me. The spaces I till are small but many. I knew that I wanted to stick with some sort of mini-tiller.

On a rare day off in April, I checked out my options on electric tillers at local home improvement stores, hardware stores and online. Ultimately I decided on a Craftsman Electric Mini-tiller at Sears (Model # 29263). At just \$199.99, it cost much less than my original Mantis.

Today was the day I put it to use for the first time and I couldn't be happier. First off, it was ready to use right out of the box. I didn't have to make sure my gas can was full or mix oil with gas. I plugged it in, pushed a button and I was ready to go! Besides the fact it's absolutely fume-free, I was most surprised by how quiet it is. Whereas my Mantis sounded like a high-revving chainsaw, the new electric tiller simply hums. No more having to wait for the neighbors to get out of bed before I can start gardening. The loudest noise the tiller makes is when it hits the occasional stone.

And as for power? It has all the power of the Mantis and more than enough to satisfy my needs. It cuts easily through hard earth and old roots. In fact, it seemed to chop up roots better than the Mantis did. With the Mantis, roots oftentimes wound around the tines and cause the motor to stall once they became wound tight. New tiller in hand, I tilled up six beds in no time flat!

### **ENTRY: MAY 31, 2012 (New in My Garden for 2012)**

Finished today with all of my planting. That's not true, of course. We gardeners are never finished planting! But at least I'm finished with the first round and can take a breather and relax and enjoy the garden for a bit.

I'm looking forward to seeing the results of a few new things I've planted this season. Some of them are plants or varieties I'm completely unfamiliar with and others are just new colors of old favorites. Many of the new items were raised from seed in the basement and others purchased at Klein's, other garden centers, from online or at the farmers' market. The following descriptions are from the plant/seed sources.

**Calibrachoa 'Superbells Cherry Star' and 'Superbells Miss Lilac'**--Two new colors in the series. 'Cherry Star' is a hot cherry pink with a yellow starred center; while 'Miss Lilac' is a soft, light lavender. Flowers resemble a miniature petunia, though the line is becoming increasingly blurred. Among the easiest annuals to grow, calibrachoa has

become hugely popular. Featuring hundreds of 1" flowers, it is fast growing, heavy blooming and self-cleaning. Low growing and often trailing. Thrives in full sun. Perfect for baskets, window boxes or as a ground cover.

**Kiss-Me-over-the-Garden-Gate 'Pink Tassles'**--A flower that was described in John Lewis Childs Catalogue for 1900, "A charming garden plant growing 8-10' high and bearing long catkin-like racemes of delicate pink flowers. The large, heart shaped leaves are beautifully striped, spotted, and marked with white." Fall blooming. Self sows. In Northern gardens, expect shorter height, around 6-7' tall. (Select Seeds)

**Morning Glory 'La Vie en Rose'**--Every shade of bloom from shell-pink to garnet-red can be found in this lovely mix from Holland. A vigorous grower with more flowers than you'll believe possible, La Vie en Rose offers bold color for fences, trellises, large hanging baskets, and more. (Park Seed)

**Petunia 'Shock Wave Coral Crush'**--Petite "Baby Waves" The flowers are 1 1/2 to 2 inches across, about 1/2 to 3/4 the size of regular Waves. Fast to fill, mounding, 8 to 10 inch tall plants are less day-length sensitive than other Wave petunias so they're earliest to bloom. The tirelessly produce incredible numbers of blossoms that recover quickly from rain and overhead watering. Their strongly branched, trailing habit adapts virtually everywhere--pots, hanging baskets and mixed containers. Coral Crush is a new color for 2012. (Jung's)

**Salvia 'Wendy's Wish'**--Fascinating, jumbo, shrimp-like buds emerge from soft coral pink bracts and open to hot pink, tubular blooms. Attractive deep green leaves have dark maroon stems. Compact and slightly spreading. The plant appeared as spontaneous garden hybrid beneath a plant of *Salvia mexicana* 'Lolly' in the Victoria, Australia garden of salvia enthusiast Wendy Smith. The corolla appears to resemble *S. buchananii* in color and flower size, but the calyx somewhat resembles some *Salvia splendens* varieties For full sun. Blooms from summer through fall. Plant in fertile, well-drained soil in beds or borders. 30-40" tall and up to 30" wide. (Proven Winners)

**Tomato 'Czech's Bush'**--Sent to Ben Quisenberry in 1976 by Milan Sodomka of Czechoslovakia. Heavy yields of round 4-6 ounce red fruits early in the season. Attractive stocky plants with rugose foliage, may need a small stake for support. Excellent for containers. Determinate, 70 days from transplant. (Seed Savers Exchange)

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

Garden inspired cocktails, anyone? Cheers!!

**WATERMELON CUCUMBER TONIC**--From Cooking Light magazine, July 2009.

For 8 drinks:

6 cups cubed watermelon, divided  
1/4 cup mint leaves, divided  
1/4 cup fresh lemon juice, divided  
3 cups peeled and sliced cucumber, divided (English type works best)  
2 1/2 cups chilled tonic water  
1 1/4 cups gin

Combine half of each: the watermelon, mint, lemon juice and cucumber in a blender and blend. Strain into a bowl through 4 layers of cheese cloth lining a sieve. Squeeze out all of the juice. Repeat the process with the other half of the ingredients. Discard the solids remaining in the cheese cloth. Combine 2 1/2 cups of the juice mix, the tonic and the gin, stirring well. Reserve the rest of the juice for the next round of cocktails or for another use. Serve over ice.

**TRIPLE BERRY MARGARITAS**--From Bon Appetit magazine, July 2002

3 x 1/2 pint containers of blackberries (3 cups)  
1 x 1/2 pint container of raspberries (1 cup)  
1/2 cup fresh lime juice  
2/3 cup sugar  
1 1/2 cups gold tequila  
2/3 cup Grand Marnier  
2 x 1 pint containers strawberries (4 cups), sliced and frozen for 1 hour  
5 cups ice

Puree the blackberries, raspberries and lime juice in a blender until smooth. Strain through a mesh sieve into a large measuring container. Add the sugar and stir until dissolved. Refrigerate at least 1 hour or up to a day. Mix the tequila and Grand Marnier into the berry puree. Transfer half of the mixture to the blender. Add half of the frozen strawberries and 2 1/2 cups ice. Blend until smooth. Transfer to a pitcher and repeat with the rest of the puree, strawberries and ice. Pour into margarita glasses rimmed with lime juice and sugar. Serve with lime slices. Makes 8-10 drinks.

**CUCUMBER YUM YUM**--From Bon Appetit magazine, June 2010.

Per two drinks:

12 x 1/8" thick English cucumber slices, divided  
10 fresh raspberries, divided  
1/4 cup gin  
1/4 cup honey  
2 TBS. aquavit  
2 TBS. fresh lime juice

With a wooden spoon, mash 10 slices cucumber and 8 raspberries in a shaker. Add the gin, honey, aquavit and lime juice. Shake hard 20 times. Fill two old-fashioned glasses with crushed ice. Strain the drinks into the glasses, dividing equally. Garnish with remaining cucumber slices and raspberries.

**FENNEL CRUSHES**--From the pages of Rachel Ray's magazine, November 2007.

1/4 cup fresh fennel, coarsely chopped  
1/4 tsp. crushed fennel seed  
Ice  
3 oz. to 1/4 cup + 2 TBS. gin  
2 oz. to 1/4 cup anise liqueur, i.e. Pernod  
1/4 cup fresh orange juice

Add fennel and seeds to a shaker and muddle with a wooden spoon. Fill the shaker halfway with ice cubes. Add the gin, anise liqueur and juice. Shake 10 seconds and strain into two ice-filled glasses.

**MINT MARGARITAS**--From Cooking Light magazine, July 2008.

1 cup sugar  
1 cup packed mint leaves  
2 cups water  
3/4 cup tequila, divided  
1/2 cup fresh lime juice (about 4 limes)  
2TBS. Grand Marnier  
3-4 dashes bitters

Combine the sugar, mint, water and 1/2 cup tequila in a saucepan. Cook on medium heat 3 minutes or until tiny bubbles form around the edge of the pan. Remove from the heat and allow to steep for 15 minutes. Strain and discard the mint. Stir in the lime juice, Grand Marnier and the remaining 1/4 cup tequila. Cool to room temperature and add the bitters. Place the mixture in a ziplock bag, seal and freeze for 2 hours. (The tequila will separate out.) Knead the bag to combine the ingredients and pour into margarita glasses dipped into lime juice and then dipped into a salt/sugar combination. Serves about 4.

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## **NATURAL NEWS--**

### **Mulches for Gardens and Landscapes**

Mulch is any natural or synthetic material used to cover topsoil in the garden or home landscape. Mulches serve a number of purposes including:

- reducing soil moisture evaporation,
- ensuring a more even soil moisture supply,
- reducing or preventing weed growth,
- insulating soil from extreme temperature changes,
- preventing mud from splashing on crop surfaces,
- reducing fruit rots (in melons, strawberries, and tomatoes),

- reducing soil crusting,
- reducing soil erosion,
- reducing soil compaction,
- protecting perennial plants from freezing, and
- improving neatness of the garden or landscape.

Organic mulches like grass clippings or compost also may serve as slow-release sources of nutrients for plant growth. Earthworms feeding on organic mulches not only will enrich the soil with their castings, but also will help aerate the soil. Organic mulches may, however, encourage some pests like sow bugs, snails, and slugs. Around fruit trees, avoid thick layers of organic mulches, which may shelter rodents.

### **Mulch Effects on Temperature**

The time of year to apply a mulch depends on the type of mulch you wish to apply and your objectives. Clear and black plastic mulches can be applied early in the spring to vegetable gardens to warm the soil. Black plastics are often preferred, as they will exclude light and discourage weed growth. Clear plastics are occasionally used to warm soils more rapidly and to solar-sterilize soils in the summer to kill weed seeds and disease organisms before planting.

Natural organic mulches and white plastic mulch applied in the summer will tend to cool soils. This is important for crops like strawberries, which do not tolerate extreme heat. Silver reflective mulches and aluminum foil not only cool soils, but also reflect light back under leaves, which tends to repel aphids.

Applying natural organic mulches in the garden in the fall before cold weather will help insulate the soil and extend the growing season. Potatoes, carrots, and parsnips can be stored in the ground during the fall and winter using a straw mulch to keep the soil from freezing. Straw placed around blackberry canes in the fall will help reduce winter kill problems.

Various rock mulches can be combined with underlying perforated plastics or landscape fabric (weed barrier) in landscapes. River rock and various colored lava and granite rock offer a number of color and texture options in the design of these landscapes. Reflected light from white rock under windows with western and southern exposures will help warm your house in the winter. Dark colored rock will retain heat in the landscape and may offer some frost protection (reradiated heat) for fruit trees in the spring (it also may encourage early breaking of dormancy).

### **Applying Mulch**

Most coarse, natural organic mulches like straw, bark, and wood chips should be applied 2-3 inches deep over the whole area to be mulched. Grass clippings should be allowed to dry out before applying them to keep them from matting. Do not apply grass clippings over 1-inch deep. Woody material should not be incorporated into the soil, as it will tend to tie up nitrogen in the soil making it unavailable for plant uptake. Do not allow moist organic mulches to come directly in contact with seedlings as they may cause seedling disease problems like "damping-off." Mulches are generally applied to most crops after they have emerged or around transplants.

Plastic mulches should be perforated to allow air and water movement into the soil. Holes cut in unperforated plastic for vegetable transplants should be large enough to accommodate air and water movement around the bases of the plants.

Soil levels should be 1-3 inches below the level of sidewalks in landscapes where rock mulches are applied to help keep rocks contained. New plants in the landscape will have better access to water if the underlying landscape fabrics are sloped slightly toward the plants.

### **Types of Mulches**

The selection of a specific mulch will depend on its availability, cost, the crop to be mulched, and the season of the year. Almost any material that insulates well yet permits gaseous exchange and moisture penetration will make a satisfactory mulch. A good mulch should not need frequent renewal and should be non-toxic to plants, easy to apply, free from disease and weed seed, and not be so absorbent that it can take moisture away from plants. It should not pack, blow, wash, ferment, or burn easily.

Many commercially available mulches fulfill most of these criteria. Quite a few are inexpensive. Decorative barks and rock may be used for aesthetic value. A coarse, heavy mulch may be needed on a windy, hillside site.

A soil surface can be covered with either synthetic or natural mulches. Natural organic mulches will decay over time mixing in with the topsoil. Such mulches will improve soil structure, improving both water and air penetration into the soil. Synthetic and rock mulches will last longer and often require less maintenance.

### **Natural Materials**

**Bark** - Bark offers outstanding effectiveness and appearance. It is available in fine, medium, and large sizes, although medium and coarse grades are best for mulch. Do not incorporate bark into the soil, as its high carbon content will cause nitrogen deficiency in plants.

**Coffee grounds** - This material has rich color and is high in nitrogen and some trace elements.

**Compost** - Use finished (well-cured) compost by itself or under other mulches. It can be mixed with soil before planting.

**Corn cobs** - Use medium ground, not fine, cobs. The cobs may be colored for special uses. Additional nitrogen may be necessary if corn cobs are mixed with soil.

**Cornstalks** - Cornstalks are very good shredded, or as whole stalks laid over other mulches in vegetable gardens. They are good for winter mulch.

**Cover crop** - Any crop, preferably a legume, that can be grown on spare land and cut can be used for mulch.

**Grass clippings** - Grass will mat and ferment if used fresh in a thick layer and alone, so only use it dry and in a thin layer. It is better mixed with other dry mulches. Do not use clippings if lawn has been treated with herbicides, and avoid grass like Bermuda that propagates easily.

**Gravel, marble chips, crushed stone** - Pea gravel or larger can be used over a weed barrier or alone. These mulches tend to warm the soil, so use them for heat-loving plants. Do not use marble around acid-soil loving plants.

**Hay and field grass** - Hay and field grass should be mowed before it goes to seed. Legume hays are rich in nitrogen. Loose hay will blow in wind and these mulches can carry weed seed.

**Leafmold** - This mulch is best placed around shrubs and on bare plots as leaves fall. Shred the leaves to keep them from packing.

**Manure** - Use well-rotted and strawy manure for best results, and watch out for weed seed. Use manure sparingly on vegetable gardens, roses, and other plants. Fresh manure can burn tender roots and can smell during the first couple of days after application.

**Peat moss** - Fine-textured types dry out and crust badly; instead use chunky peat (sphagnum). Peat moss is very expensive and hard to wet.

**Peanut hulls** - This is an excellent mulch and is very attractive. It blows in the wind unless partially cultivated into the soil.

**Pecan shells** - This long-lasting mulch has a nice color and good texture. However, birds and rodents may become a problem, and it blows in wind unless partially cultivated into the soil.

**Pine needles** - Pine needles are a very good mulch, especially for acid-soil-loving plants (such as strawberries). Pine needles are light, airy, and attractive but can be a fire hazard.

**Pomace (apple or grape)** - The odor may be somewhat heavy for the first couple of weeks. This mulch is good for heavy soil and it decomposes very slowly and releases some nutrients to soil.

**Sawdust (preferably decomposed)** - Apply sawdust 1-inch deep, but do not incorporate it into the soil as its high carbon content will cause nitrogen deficiency in plants.

**Straw** - This is a good general mulch used for winter protection and on paths between vegetable rows. It may carry weed seed.

**Wood chips** - This is a long lasting mulch. Apply it 2-4 inches deep. It decomposes slowly. Do not incorporate into the soil as its high carbon content will cause nitrogen deficiency in plants.

### **Synthetic Mulches**

**Cloth** - Burlap is sometimes used between rows in vegetable gardens.

Erosion-control netting and blankets - Use these materials for holding mulch and grass seedlings on steep slopes.

**Fiberglass matting** - This is a very effective mulch because it is permeable to air and water and its glass fibers may repel certain pests. Cover it with bark or similar organic mulch for better appearance.

**Newspaper** - Use three to six sheets thick and cover it with organic mulches for better appearance and to speed decomposition.

**Perlite, vermiculite** - Horticultural grades are useful around tiny seedlings or on plants in containers. It can blow badly.

**Plastic film** - These mulches are unattractive alone. For best results, plastic should be well perforated to allow aeration and moisture penetration. Clear plastic warms soil but permits weed growth, whereas black plastic warms soil and deters weed growth. White plastic cools soils and deters weed. Other colors are available and have various effects on plants. Silver reflective mulches (cool soil) reflect light, which tends to repel aphids (aluminum foil has a similar effect). Plastic is often used under rockscaping to discourage weed growth, but this is not recommended unless the plastic is perforated. Soil should be damp before applying plastic.

**Woven weed barrier** - This mulch allows moisture and oxygen to penetrate the soil, encouraging roots to penetrate more deeply. Use it in landscaping as a substitute for black plastic. It deters weed growth.

Originally written by Esteban Herrera, Extension Horticulturist, New Mexico State University. Source: [New Mexico State University](#)

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

### **Bluestar (Amsonia)**

Once established, there are few plants in the perennial garden or as versatile as Amsonia. Their shrubby growth habit adds structure to the garden along with lovely pale blue flowers in the springtime and then stunning color in the fall. Amsonias are among the most underutilized of our perennials. They are very low maintenance and are virtually pest free. Among the best known of the Amsonias are Willow Bluestar (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*) and Arkansas Bluestar (*Amsonia hubrichtii*). Both are available at Klein's. Arkansas Bluestar was the 2011 Perennial of the Year and is used extensively at Olbrich Gardens. Nearly all Bluestars are native to the United States. Grow in full sun to part shade in rich, moist soil.

**Willow Bluestar** grows to about 3' tall and is very shrubby in appearance eventually forming large, multi-stemmed clumps. Pale blue, star-shaped flowers appear in early June. To control height cut plants back by 1/2 just after flowering. Doing so makes for sturdier, less floppy plants. The shiny foliage remains beautiful all summer long and turns golden yellow in the fall. Willow Bluestar is native to the east coast of the U.S. and is also called Eastern Bluestar.

Whereas Willow Bluestar is known for its flowers, **Arkansas Bluestar** is renowned for its stunning fall foliage in shades of yellow and orange. Like its cousin, pale blue flowers appear in late spring. The foliage is very fine and threadlike and very attractive throughout the season. As with Willow Bluestar shear the plants back by 1/2 after flowering for more compact growth and to prevent flopping. It can take a few years for plants to become well-established. Plants are native to the lower Midwest but are fully hardy here in southern Wisconsin. 'Blue Ice' is a shorter and more compact cultivar.

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## **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 [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com) 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.**

### **Northside Farmers Market**

Sundays, May 6 through October 21, 8:30-12:30

In the Northside TownCenter at the intersection of N. Sherman Ave. and Northport Dr. across from Warner Park.

The Northside Farmers Market is a nonprofit community enterprise. It is one of the newest and fastest growing farmers' markets in Dane County. In keeping with the innovative spirit of Madison's Northside, we are surpassing what defines the traditional farmers' market. Our fundamental principles include:

--Providing an abundant selection of high quality, locally grown foods.  
The market accepts Quest, WIC and Senior FMNP vouchers.

--Supporting our local agricultural entrepreneurs who are increasingly important today in ensuring that we have the best and safest food possible.

--Educating the community about traditional foods and the history of local agriculture in an attempt to preserve (and expand upon) our rich heritage.

--Promoting nutrition and the market by hosting dinners for neighborhood groups and seniors.

Parking is always FREE!

For details visit [www.northsidefarmersmarket.org](http://www.northsidefarmersmarket.org)

### **Dane County Farmer's Market**

Saturdays, April 21 thru November 10, 6:00-2:00  
On the Capitol Square

Wednesdays, April 25 thru November 7, 8:30-2:00  
In the 200 block of Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.

For details visit [www.dcfm.org](http://www.dcfm.org)

### **Olbrich Garden's Bolz Conservatory Exhibit-Light Gaps**

April 7 thru July 15, 2012

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 \$2 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](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **Iris Show (Cancelled Due to an Early Spring)**

Sunday, June 3, 12:00-5:00

Sponsored by the Madison Iris Society

For details call [608/271-3607](tel:6082713607)

Cut irises in a rainbow of colors will be on display in the Evjue Commons.

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **Hosta Sale**

Sunday, June 3, 10:00-2:00 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 [608-835-3291](tel:6088353291).

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **Garden Walk & Talks with Mark Dwyer: Mark's Perennial Favorites**

Thursday, June 14, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Get the inside scoop from the man with the plans as Mark points out some of his favorite perennial plants throughout the Gardens.

Join RBG Horticulture Director, Mark Dwyer, and stroll with a purpose during themed Garden Walk & Talks on select evenings this summer and early fall. Pre-registration is highly recommended. If there is still room, walk-ins will be allowed on the dates of the programs. Wear comfortable clothing and shoes. Plan on walking at an easy pace and doing some standing during the Garden Walk & Talk. Meet in the Atrium of the main building by 6:20pm. The walk will begin promptly at 6:30pm. \$5.00 for RBG Friends Members/\$10.00 for the General Public.

Rotary Botanical Gardens  
1455 Palmer Drive  
Janesville, WI,  
608/752-3885 or [www.rotarygardens.org](http://www.rotarygardens.org)

### **Rhapsody in Bloom: Puttin' on the Ritz**

Saturday, June 16, 5:00-10:00  
One of Olbrich Garden's biggest fundraisers.  
For reservations call [608/246-5616](tel:6082465616)

No doubt about it Rhapsody in Bloom is gonna be the Bee's Knees! Get dolled up and dapper to dine and celebrate 1920s style in Olbrich's award winning gardens. Spend some clams bidding on exclusive auction packages and then cut a rug on the dance floor to live music.

A nifty night to never forget, it'll be the talk of the town!

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **Madison Rose Society Rose Show**

Sunday, June 17, 12:00-4:00  
Free Admission

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. For more info call [608-845-6063](tel:6088456063)

Olbrich Botanical Gardens  
3330 Atwood Ave., Madison  
[608/246-4550](tel:6082464550) or [www.olbrich.org](http://www.olbrich.org) for details

### **Native Plant Garden Tour:**

#### **What's Blooming?**

Wednesday, June 20, 7:00-8:00 p.m.

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

University of WI Arboretum  
1207 Seminole Hwy.  
Madison, WI 53711  
[608/263-7888](tel:6082637888) or [uwarboretum.org/events](http://uwarboretum.org/events)

### **2012 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 2012 Schedule:

(All concerts are on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.)

**June 26**

Taki Allstars--Dub/Reggae/Roots Music

**July 3**

Wisconsin Youth Symphony--Orchestral Favorites

**July 10**

Ken Lonnquist--Fun Songs for Families

**July 17**

Anna Laube--Roots/Pop-Americana

**July 24**

Capitol City Band--Concert Band Favorites

**July 31**

Patchouli--Folk & Flamenco Guitar Duo

Olbrich Botanical Gardens

3330 Atwood Ave., Madison

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

**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.

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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.harriseseeds.com](http://www.harriseseeds.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:**

Heronswood Nursery @ [www.heronswood.com](http://www.heronswood.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 2013? 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.

**PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT**--Each month we spotlight some 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.

**MIGHTY 'MATO™ GRAFTED TOMATOES**

**"Stronger! Faster! Fights Off Disease and Pests! Super Yields!"**

Grafted vegetables are created when the top part of one plant (the scion) is attached to the root system of a separate plant (the rootstock). The rootstock contributes vigor and disease resistance while the scion is chosen for fruit flavor or quality. Produce growers have found that this traditional technique can dramatically improve plant health and increase harvests naturally and economically. Now, Log House Plants is making these amazing plants available for the first time to home gardeners in the U.S. **and are still available at Klein's!**

Advantages of grafted vegetables include enhanced plant vigor, stronger disease resistance, tolerance of environmental stresses, and heavier crops that are produced over an extended harvest period.

All tomatoes can benefit from grafting, but heirlooms, which are generally less disease resistant, can increase yields dramatically when grafted on special rootstock.

For the 2012 spring season, Klein's will be carrying 'Cherokee Purple' and 'Early Girl' and due to their costs will only be available in 6" pots. Log House Plants says to be on the look out for grafted eggplants, peppers, melons, cucumber and squash in the near future.

Source: <http://loghouseplants.com>

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## **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**

Follow Klein's on [Facebook](#) where we post updates and photos on a regular basis.

## **TWITTER**

Join Klein's on [Twitter](#) where we post company updates and photos on a regular basis.

## **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.

## **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**

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 [barb@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:barb@kleinsfloral.com)

Delivery Supervisor--Rick Halbach [rick@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:rick@kleinsfloral.com)

Owner & Manager--Sue Klein [sue@kleinsfloral.com](mailto:sue@kleinsfloral.com)

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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.invasiveplants.net/>  
<http://www.ipaw.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://mamgawi.org/>

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.allencentennialgardens.org/>

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/>

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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

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### **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

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