



Alden Lane Nursery Newsletter

AUGUST 2008

Serving You Since 1955

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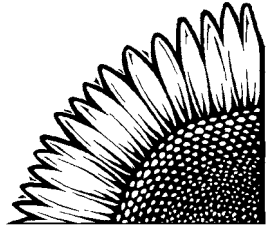
Announcements

- **Watch the Valley Gardener** for great gardening tips with host Jacquie Williams-Courtright at 7:30 am every day, repeated on Saturday & Sunday at 11 am.
- **Attention Rose Lovers!** The Annual Rose Show will be held the weekend of October 11 & 12 at Alden Lane Nursery. All are welcome and encouraged to enter and share their lovely roses, so mark your calendars for this fun and informative event. Watch the newsletter for further information.
- **Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club has changed its meeting date to the 2nd Thursday of the month**, so the September meeting will meet Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008 at Alisal School, multipurpose room, 1454 Santa Rita Road, Pleasanton at 7 p.m. Guests are welcome. For more information please call Sally at 417-8809 for details.
- Visit Valley Perks Coffee Bar at Alden Lane! Have you ever wanted a cup of coffee or tea while you browse Alden Lane? Now you can sip a beverage while you shop. Valley Perks is located in our "Seasons" store next to the greenhouse. We hope you'll enjoy a cup next time you're in!
- Thanks to everyone who made **Art Under the Oaks** such a success from the attendees to the vendors. The music, the food, the demonstrations and art were wonderful. Congratulations to all the **Art Under the Oaks** Hourly Winners and our **Grand Prize Winner!**



Alden Lane Nursery Hours

Open every day until 6 p.m.



Let's Plant More Sunflowers!!

August is actually a great month to plant sunflowers from seed. Dazzling orange sunflowers against a stunning blue sky, summertime and sunflowers go together like lemon and ice tea.

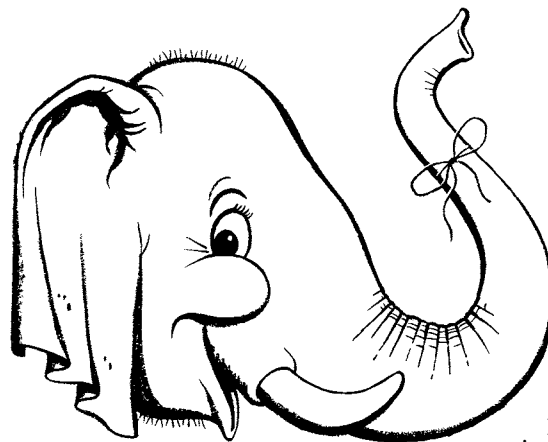
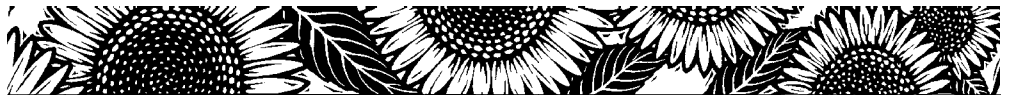
Many sunflowers planted this past spring have already sprung, their flowers are fading, and seed heads are forming. Thanks to our mild, California climate we can enjoy a bumper crop and second harvest by planting sunflowers a second time. Planting sunflowers from seed now will give an abundant crop of bouquet-ready blossoms for the fall table.

Last year we planted a late crop of sunflowers and enjoyed armloads of beauties into November. Colors range from near white and yellow to orange and red and in sizes from 3' tall, "Sunspot" to towering, 10' "Mammoth Grey Stripe".

The best varieties for fall harvest are generally the shorter ones and the multi-branching ones.

Sunspot is such a cutie, at 18"-3' high it can even be planted in terracotta pots to be enjoyed on the dining room table, pot and all. "Autumn Beauty" is a moderate grower with multi-branched habit and a color perfectly suitable for the season. Bouquet mixes such as "Florist's Favorite" yellow sunflowers, "Drop Dead Red" and "Flash Blend" grow and bloom beautifully to 7' and can be cut for fall bouquets.

Sunflowers are easy to grow in any soil. Water to establish and expect blooms in six to eight weeks.



Reminder! It's Time to Redeem Bonus Dollars This Month!!

Each April and May you earn **BONUS DOLLARS** with your purchases at Alden Lane Nursery and in August they are redeemable. In order to accommodate summer vacations, the redemption time will include the whole month of August. So bring those green Bonus Dollars in. They are redeemable for up to 1/2 the value of your purchase. If you earned \$20 you could apply them to a \$40 purchase and get 1/2 OFF. If you didn't participate with us this spring don't despair! The program has been so well received we will do it each April and May. (They are good from year to year.)

[Your bonus dollars may be applied to all purchases except sod, sale items, multiply priced merchandise and special orders. Not valid with other discounts or coupons.]

Around The Nursery

Waterfall Workshop

Wednesday,
August 13th at 3:00 p.m.

Saturday,
August 16th at 10:30 a.m.

Building a pondless waterfall garden ... in a weekend!

Our pondless waterfall is a soothing reminder of wilder places, a beautiful slice of nature. Within this workshop you will learn how to build a little piece of paradise for less than the cost of (tropical) airfare.

Pondless waterfalls are easy to build and easier to keep. They are safe and practically maintenance free. Water recirculates over the waterfall and through a hidden lower reservoir. No pond water to collect algae and no exposed water to fall into. We will show the concepts and steps needed to put it all together with helpful tips regarding the art and science of construction.

Meanwhile, come visit our water garden area. Many changes have occurred this year as our turtle "Ivy" who disappeared late last summer reappeared in March, caked in mud, (Brumation). We have renovated the larger pond, making it deeper and more secure for Ivy and we have added a couple of younger brother-turtles. The area has just been replanted with a beautiful plant collection including a new bog planting. We also have a broader selection of aquatic plants for sale including many in glorious bloom. The refreshed water garden area is sure to cool, refresh and inspire.

Orchids 101

Want to learn more about your orchids and how to be successful? Sue Fordyce is conducting Orchids 101 classes every second Saturday of the month at Alden Lane. Pre-register with our cashiers (phone in or drop by). The cost is \$5, and bring a friend for free! This month Orchids 101 will be held August 9th at 11:00 a.m.

Plant Perks

Not only do houseplants bring an element of the outdoors inside, but they provide an emotional calm. Studies show that environments with houseplants can lower your blood pressure as well as your heart rate! Drop into Alden Lane's Greenhouse (a haven for the harried and stressed) and check out our fabulous array of home healthy houseplants.

Special Order Your Fruit Trees NOW!

NOW IS THE TIME TO START ORDERING FRUIT TREES FOR THE 2009 SEASON.

You will receive an *early order discount of 20%*. Orders must be in by November 12th.

Stop by the Information Counter to pick up your **2009 Fruit Tree List and Order Form** or simply give us a call and we can either fax a copy or e-mail a copy to you.

Concrete Leaf Classes!

These leaves are not made from molds, but from the wonderful leaves abundant in the garden this time of year. It is a very fun project, and we will provide all the necessary materials and instruction to make a medium size 10"- 12" concrete leaf- just bring yourself, a pair of rubber gloves and clothes you can get dirty. You will leave the finished project with us for a week to partially cure before taking it home. Once you make one leaf, you'll want to make more and more — it's very addicting because they come out so beautifully. We will equip you with the knowledge you need to create a garden full of exotic leaves.

The cost is \$48.00 per class, 15 person class limit. Please pre-register with our Alden Lane cashiers. Please allow for 1½ to 2 hours class time. Classes are scheduled as follows:

- Thursday, August 14th at 6:30 p.m.
- Saturday, August 16th at 11 a.m.
- Saturday, August 23rd at 11 a.m.

Leaf Painting Seminar

Bring your leaf (they take about 3 weeks minimum to cure properly before painting) We will supply the paints and techniques to make your concrete leaf creations truly amazing! Cost for the painting seminar is \$35.00. Pre-register with our cashiers. Class limited to 20 people per class. Allow 1½ hours class time.

- Saturday, September 6 at 11 a.m.
- Wednesday, October 1 at 6:30 p.m.

Dave's Rose Program Gives Your Roses Autumn Beauty

Catapult your roses into fall bloom with this feeding recipe. Livermore rose expert Dave Lowell developed this feeding program and it works wonders. First, use only if your roses are well established (planted for at least six months). ALWAYS water your plants deeply and thoroughly the day before feeding. Feed during the cool of the day. Avoid feeding on an extra hot day. Lightly work ingredients into the soil around the rose if possible.

Sprinkle around each rose:

- ½ cup bone meal(5 pounds feeds 18 roses)
- ½ cup E.B. Stone organics 5-5-5(5 pounds feeds 18 roses)
- ½ cup Iron Sulfate or pH Adjuster Plus (Granulated Sulfur).....(5 pounds feeds 18 roses)
- 2 tablespoons Epsom Salts (magnesium sulfate)(1.25 feeds 18 roses)
- 1 shovel full of chicken fertilizer.....(1 cubic feet feeds 9 roses)

After you've fed the roses, be sure to soak them. *Never use in conjunction with systemic rose foods.* The combination of bone meal and systemic rose foods pose a serious health risk to pets.

Notes for August Gardening

Keep after tomato hornworms and petunia budworms with another application of **Safer's Caterpillar Killer**. It's an effective, safe environmental control.

Don't forget your citrus! In order to get bumper crops feed lemons, oranges and other citrus monthly with **Master's Citrus Food**. Remember to water the day before applying fertilizers or other plant care products. Also avoid feeding or treating on extra hot days.

Is your garden suffering from the summer blahs? Perk it up with colorful **petunias, marigolds, vinca & dahlias!**

Treat compacted soils and lawns with soil penetrant **Soil Logic Drought Defense**. No amount of water or food will do the lawn any good if it isn't reaching the roots. This **Soil Penetrant** opens the soil to water, air and food for lush green growth. Aerating your lawn is most helpful in improving water penetration.

Keep those flowerbeds neat and blooming! Deadhead (remove all old flowers) all blooming annuals. Cut back leggy petunias. Fertilize with **Master Bud & Bloom** to help set new flowers.

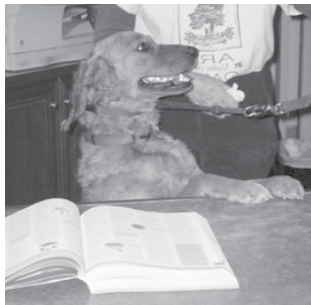
Clean up around fruit trees and pick any left over fruit that can harbor soft rot fungus. A light pruning to shape can be done now. Put the fruit and trimmings in the compost pile with your other garden waste.

Hard to believe but its time to **start planting winter vegetables!** The cabbage family members, root crops, and leafy vegetables such as broccoli, beets, carrots, radishes, onions, spinach and chard are **ready to be planted this month from seed**. (Farmers in the valley are planting winter vegetable crops from seed this month.) Planting now allows for a deep, established root system and a very long growing season resulting in larger harvests. Starter plants are available in mid September.

Sow flower seeds. Many wildflowers & spring blooming annuals grow from seed scattered now. Try California Poppy, Bachelor Button, Alyssum and Godetia. Also plant biennials such as hollyhock from seed now.

Start working now to prevent fall weeds. Apply **Master's Easy Living Lawn Food plus weed preventer**. This product does a great job of creating a protective barrier to prevent the pesky annual bluegrass. If you plan to reseed your lawn next month, delay this application.

Sunflowers are extremely easy to grow from seed in our area and those planted now will sprout and bloom by fall. This is one of the secrets of sunflowers. They make a great fall display. Choose from several varieties.



Hailey's Comments

Greetings to my shade seeking four pawed friends. I am Hailey, the resident nursery dog staying cool at register #3. I am itching to meet you and your own family dog star. Livermore's Dog Days of Summer are here. Purely a dog's delight.

Paws down, the best time to have planted a thoroughbred shade tree was before 1994. I bark this selfishly because

of the litter of leaves hanging from the branches that are giving the surrounding environment acres of shade. Masters, if your hound is begging to dig, allow them the instinctive opportunity to dig for the future. Have them unearth a hole larger than the root ball of a young tree. Bury the root ball and cover it like you would a treasured bone, adding soil amendments for healthy growth, and bone meal of course. This will provide ample shade for the future tail waggers. Grandpuppies will be proud knowing that the environment will be shaded and the planet cooled.

Go in pursuit of conservation measures in your garden. Adding a 3 to 4 inch layer of mulch will keep the soil cool in the heat and preserve moisture by slowing evaporation. You will save money if you water less. For mulch, I highly recommend shredded bark. The very name is close and dear to my heart. The organic, air-filled, product provides a soft place for your fruit to land on should they get off leash from the branches they were being held by.

Paws for Reflection: **A leash is a strap which attaches to your collar enabling you to lead your person where you want him/her to go.**

(Author unknown)

From The Garden Store

ANDREA'S FAVS

Funky Randy's Birdhouses

Fully functional designer birdhouses made out of cedar with vintage doorknobs, plates and finials. Handcrafted and designed by artisan Funky Randy.

Water Blossom Outdoor Shower

Make this summer your coolest ever with an eye-catching outdoor shower. Kids can beat the heat by showering in the open air, while keeping sand and dirt where it belongs by rinsing off before entering the house. Constructed with durable copper piping, the six-foot tall shower is easy to assemble - this flower shower simply attaches to a garden hose. *Talk about refreshing!*



Gourmet Kevton Ceylon Tea

Try our delicious teas, all the way from Sri Lanka. From Mint to Mango -- this tea is high on old-world charm and low in caffeine. Free of the chemical processing used to decaffeinate other teas.

Go Green with an Earth Friendly Reusable Aluminum Water Bottle

Help reduce unnecessary environmental waste caused by plastic water bottles and look cool doing it!

Watering 101

– Part 2 –

The #1 Question:

“HOW OFTEN SHOULD I WATER?”

The REAL answer: **“WHEN YOUR PLANT NEEDS IT!”**

WATERING TO ESTABLISH

The goal of good watering (deeply & infrequently) is to encourage roots to grow deeper and access a larger, more stable volume of water which isn't subject to the drying effects found at the surface. Deep soaking puts water down where you want the roots to grow & infrequent watering forces them to go searching. Shallow and/or frequent watering will create a shallow root system more subject to the elements. After the first few months, a properly established tree should be able to go a week between waterings, the following year, a month and by the second season it should be self-sufficient only needing water during extreme conditions. The smaller the plant, the smaller the root system but the concept is the same... shrubs may ultimately need water only monthly, perennials maybe only weekly, your lawn only every 3rd day and annuals every other day! Only new plantings and plants in pots are OK with daily water when needed.

GARDEN WATERING

Even an established garden which is used to frequent, shallow watering can be retrained and made more self-sufficient. Surface roots will remain but you can encourage new deeper roots by applying the same concepts discussed above. **Step one:** water half as frequently but twice as long. Each month you can extend the time between waterings and water longer. Within a year your plants should be retrained.

HOW TO WATER

How you apply water has a lot to do with where it ends up. Very few soils around here can absorb an hours worth of water applied all at once, you may have to apply it more slowly or in smaller doses. So how do you **deep water**?

When watering by hand: for smaller plants, it's best to build a basin which extends just beyond the drip line and fill it 2 or 3 times. For larger plants apply a slow trickle of water for 20-30 minutes at several spots around the drip line of the plant.

When watering by sprinkler (in ground or manual): run your sprinkler to the point of run-off, turn off and allow the water to penetrate, repeat once or twice. Most sprinkler systems can *and should* be programmed to cycle through stations repeatedly. You can determine the output & efficiency of your sprinklers with the 'can-test'. Space shallow cans in a straight line out from sprinkler, run sprinkler for 30 minutes, take note of the various amounts of water in each can and adjust your watering technique accordingly. It's always best to water in the morning so

WATERING 101 Use Buckets Not Teacups

Soil Prep • Planting • Watering Basics

Why didn't anyone every tell me that?

Water Deeply when you water

Roots Go Where the water is

Hand Water First 3 Weeks

Deeply & Infrequently

“ROUGH WEATHER MAKES STRONG TIMBER”

Too much & Too little Water can look the same

Over-watering = Too Frequently

Roots need Air as much as Water

Proximity ≠ Like Conditions

ONLY New Plantings & Pots OK with Daily Water

First months determine Future

Mulching conserves water

Water needs change

Water to Establish

Drought Tolerant Plants AREN'T until established

How often? When they need it!

Maximize Self-Sufficiency with Deep Roots

Daily Water = Dependent Plants

Long, Deep & Slow

No such thing as Too Much Water at any One Time

GROUP like PLANTS

Shallow Watering = Shallow Roots

Best Water Meter = Your Finger

your plants are dry before nightfall when wet foliage will encourage a number of diseases.

When watering by drip system: run system long enough (usually an hour or two) to apply adequate water, most emitters are a gallon or two *per hour*. Water moves down and out through the soil wetting a cone of soil so initially emitters should be placed on top of the root ball... a few inches out to the side and the water will miss the roots. Established plants are best with multiple emitters placed farther from the trunk so roots on both sides are watered. Shallow rooted plant such as Azaleas cannot be watered with drip. If they are on the same line, use micro-sprinklers to spread the water over the surface and wet the entire root zone. Check emitters regularly, they clog easily.

How often: determine watering **frequency** by periodically measuring how long it takes for a plant to start wilting after it's been watered thoroughly... this is the maximum time between waterings under those weather conditions. “Needs regular watering” is different for every plant but basically it means that plant will never be entirely self-sufficient. The **Time to Wilt Test** is a good way to determine each plants need.

FACTORS TO CONSIDER

Keeping in mind the general concepts discussed above, here are just *some* of the variables to consider for each individual planting:

Plant type: Trees root more deeply than shrubs or perennials, leaves that are smaller, grayer, or needle-like are all adapted to require less water. Natives may need

Quilting In the Garden 2008

September 27th & 28th



Quilting in the Garden is held each September at Alden Lane Nursery. This year we are pleased to be hanging the work of local artists, all hanging from the majestic Oaks at Alden Lane. The quilt show in the nursery is free and the lecture series will have a nominal charge.

Our 11th Annual Quilting in the Garden will be held on Saturday & Sunday, September 27th and 28th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with classes offered on Thursday & Friday, September 25th and 26th.

Featured artists this year include:

Joel Wolfrom, one of the pioneers of contemporary quiltmaking and the innovator of two new genres, Joel's landscape quilts, innovative log cabin quilts, and free flowing curved pieced quilts have brought her international

acclaim. Joel has authored twelve books and many products to help quilters succeed.

Melinda Bula will be here with her fabulous fusible flowers quilts. Unique, with the wonderful look of a painting, she uses fabric and thread to create beautifully artistic quilts. Her first new book is out, called cutting *Garden Quilts*, and she is working on a line of fabric to be out later this year.

Alex Anderson will be here. Come and meet the co-host of the new internet show "The Quilt Show" with Ricky Tims, www.thequiltshow.com. Alex will be here during the show on Saturday and Sunday and will be teaching a class on Thursday.

Cindy Needham will also be sharing her love of Vintage Linen Wholecloth quilting when she teaches on Friday, September 26th. Cindy also brings her expertise in thread to a Thread Bar on Saturday, September 27 from 12 - 2 pm. Come and learn all about choosing threads for machine quilting. This class does have a fee. All fees and class information available on our website,



www.aldenlane.com; click on "Quilting in the Garden".

You can be a featured artist as well as we will be accepting your quilts for display. You may enter a maximum of 4 quilts for the show. Go to www.aldenlane.com for rules and restrictions. All photos and forms must be delivered to Alden Lane Nursery by August 11th to be considered for showing.

The **Budding Beginners** area will be here again, encouraging the joys of quilting for everyone who's wanted to give it a try. Amador Valley Quilters will offer encouragement on both days.

We'll have a variety of quilting, craft and food vendors to fill your creative appetites.

Our hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn in Livermore. You can reach them at (925) 292-2000, mention *Quilting in the Garden* to receive a \$69.00 room rate, or as an alternate hotel you can call Ramon at Holiday Inn Express at (925) 961-9500.

Their room rate is \$75.00 and includes a full breakfast.

For more information on **Quilting in the Garden 2008** please visit our website at www.aldenlane.com.

Watering 101 – Part 2 (cont.)

water for the first month or two but then want nothing beyond what mother nature gives them.

How long established: Assuming good watering practices, the longer a plant is in the ground the more established and less frequently it will need supplemental watering. New plantings, on the other hand, can require water more than once a day—check on them frequently.

Soil conditions: The fine particles of clay soils accept water more slowly & hold onto it more tightly than sandy or loamy soils which drain more quickly. Water applied on a slope needs to be slowed in order to penetrate (basins, mulches, drip emitters, etc.).

Exposure: The amount of sun & when it's received affects how quickly a plant will dry as will reflected heat from walls & wind.

Weather: Cool and humid weather (fall & winter) minimize water usage while warm, dry & windy weather (spring & summer) are demanding. Spring and summer

also signal higher water use because plants are actively growing and conditions are more extreme.

MOST COMMON PITFALLS

- Poorly amended soil
- Planting too deep
- Shallow watering (= shallow roots)
- Watering too frequently
- Forgotten irrigation systems (clogs, adjusting for weather, etc.)

THE NEW WAY TO THINK ABOUT WATERING

Like a parent, take extra care in the beginning to nurture your plants, meet their needs (without spoiling them) and help establish them so they become as self-sufficient as possible.

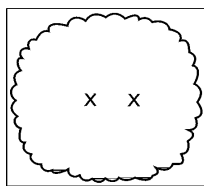
Small Trees, Big Fruit

Techniques aim at making the most of tiny backyards.

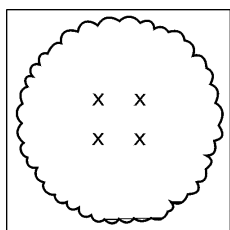
Stop by and select your "Backyard Orchard"!!

You'll be amazed! You can plant a whole fruit tree orchard in a very small space with backyard orchard culture and high density planting techniques that can accomplish great fruit yield. Drop in and we'll help with your questions. Here are some suggestions:

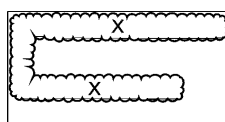
- Plant many varieties in a small space
- Prune in the summer for size control
- Successive Ripening = Choosing fruit tree varieties that ripen during different months of the year.



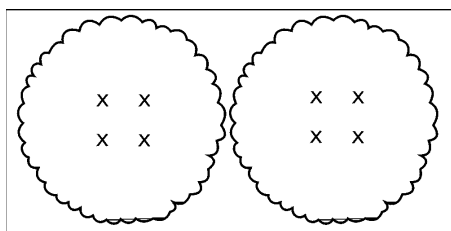
8' x 9' Area
Two trees in one hole,
18" apart



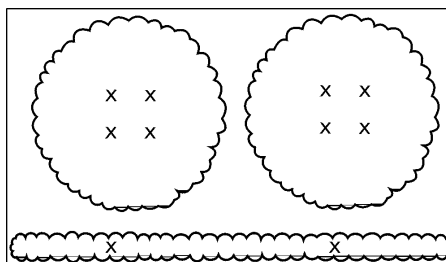
10' x 10' Area
Four trees in one hole,
18" apart



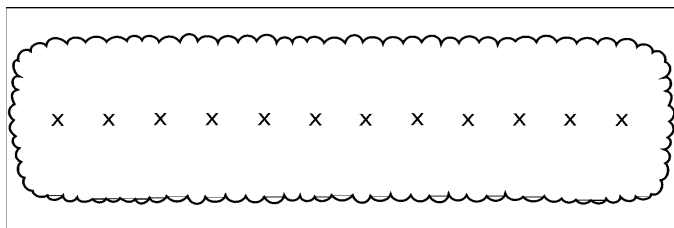
5' x 10' Area
Two trees espaliered



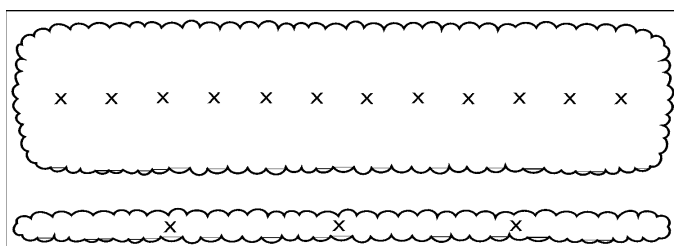
10' x 20' Area
Two sets of four trees in one hole. In
each set, trees 18" apart



12' x 20' Area
Two sets of four trees in one hole. In
each set, plus two espaliered trees.



10' x 30' Area
12 trees in a hedgerow,
30" apart. (Or plant
three sets of four trees
in one hole.)



11' x 30' Area
12 trees in a hedgerow,
30" apart, plus three
espaliered trees.

Garden Care in the Summer

Use a **Ross Root Feeder** to deep water and fertilize shrubs and trees. The Ross Root Feeder puts water at the roots of the plant where it belongs. **Soaker hoses** are excellent additions to your garden. They deliver water slowly to provide a deep soak.

➔ **Water your garden in the morning.** Always water on a RISING temperature. It helps to prevent fungal and bacterial diseases in your garden. An exception would be on those extra hot days when early evening watering is fine.

➔ **MULCH! Mulch!** **Mulch!** Spread 3 to 4 inches of mulch around shrubs and trees. Leave a six-inch area open around the trunk of the tree so it can breathe. Mulching helps retain moisture and keeps the roots cool.

➔ **Put shut-off valves on all your hoses.** This way you can turn off the water as you move from place to place.

➔ **Check the sprinklers.** Replace damaged ones. Clean out clogged heads. Adjust so they aren't watering sidewalks and driveways.

Japanese Maples Second growth . . . and it is time to fertilize.

Remove sunburnt leaves and feed with **Dyna-Gro**. Your maple will leaf in 4 weeks just in time to provide a beautiful fall foliage display.

Cooking With Herbs

Herbs can make a familiar dish new or lift an ordinary entrée to gourmet status. Their subtle magic transforms soups, stews, salads, breads and even desserts. And with a bouquet of herbs or a scattering of herb flowers as a garnish, your food will look as wonderful as it tastes.

1. Basil – It's warm, heady flavor lends itself to Italian or Mediterranean cooking, especially tomato dishes or with eggs, cheese or salads. Special tips: Pesto Sauce: blend 2 c. of fresh basil, ¼ c. of parmesan, ½ c. of olive oil, 3 tbs. of pine nuts or walnuts and 3 cloves of garlic minced. Use on pasta and vegetables.

2. Chives – The subtle onion flavor of chives is perfect in omelets, salads, soups, or on potatoes and other vegetables. Special tips: Get rid of onion like odor by chewing on a fresh parsley sprig.

3. Dill – Used for pickling, dill is also wonderful on salads, sauces, soups or breads, on vegetables and fish. Special tips: Try pickling green beans, carrots, new potatoes or peppers with a bit of dill.

4. Marjoram – Like oregano but sweeter, this flavor is perfect in Mediterranean dishes, meats and vegetables.

5. Mint – The flavor of mint is refreshing, cool and sweet, especially good in iced drinks and teas, with lamb or in salad dressings. Special tips: Minty sun tea: Put 8 tea bags, ½ c. of fresh mint leaves and 1 gal. of water in clear glass jar. Set in sunny spot for several hours. Serve over ice. It's the prime ingredient in the very popular Mojito cocktail.

6. Parsley – For a clean sharp and peppery taste, add to vegetables and salads as a garnish. Include in sauces, soups, stews and stuffing. Special tip: Parsley is

Late Summer Color

August flower beds often suffer something of an identity crisis. Many of the annuals we planted early in the year are past their prime. But, while it's a hot and dry time of the year, it's not too late for planting annuals. There are many garden flowers ready to turn even the most unsightly bare spots into a bright, colorful oasis. Here's how to spruce up your sunny flower beds.

- Low 3-8"
 - Petite Marigolds (yellow & orange)
 - Lobelia (blue & white)
 - Alyssum (white, purple)
 - Ageratum (powder blue)
- Medium 8-10"
 - Marigolds (yellow & orange)
 - Petunias (all colors)
 - Asters (white, pink & blue)
 - Zinnias (all colors)
 - Vinca rosea (rose, pink & white)
- Tall 30-60"
 - Marigolds (yellow & orange)
 - Cosmos (pink, white & wine red)
 - Zinnias (all colors)
 - Snapdragons (all colors)



With the exception of the zinnias, all of the above will do well in half sun, half shade. Impatiens and begonias will also brighten any spot that gets a full morning of sun. Remember that you can create living bouquets with these annuals. Fill clay pots, redwood tubs or hanging baskets for sparks of color on the front porch, patio or poolside. Add "SoilMoist" to your potting soil to cut your watering in half.

high in Vitamins A,C and B's.

7. Sage – Warm, slightly bitter, this flavor is a must for turkey stuffing, as well as pork, duck and sausage seasoning. Special tips: Dried sage leaves are used as a substitute for coffee or tea.

8. Rosemary – The flavor of rosemary is bold and piney. Use it in pickles, jams preserves and sauces, as well as meats and soups. Special tips: Use a branch of rosemary as a basting brush at your next BBQ, or put some on the coals for great aroma.

9. Tarragon – A spicy, sharp flavor with licorice and mint overtones, tarragon lends itself to French cooking, egg dishes, fish and salad dressing. Special tips: Tarragon vinegar: Pour a qt. of cold vinegar over ½ c. fresh tarragon leaves, cap and store for 4 weeks.

10. Thyme – A heavy, spicy flavor similar to cloves, thyme is the perfect herb for poultry dishes and creamy soups. Special tips: Saute a pinch of thyme in butter. Pour over chicken or cooked vegetables.



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