
BLOOMING NEWS

New Blooms Greenhouse

11 Hickory Drive, Duncannon, PA 17020

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Spring 2006

Hello to our Gardening Friends...

New Blooms Greenhouse opens for the season on Saturday, March 18 and we look forward to seeing all of you soon! Many have asked what we actually did for four months while we were closed for the winter season. Well, we did squeeze in a brief sightseeing trip to Savannah and then to Miami so Lee could see Penn State play. But other than that, we have been busy getting ready for the spring. One thing we didn't count on doing was rebuilding one of our greenhouses! Friday the 13th of January was a stroke of bad luck as a huge downdraft came through at about 3:00 am and whipped through our growing area with a vengeance. Fortunately the damage has been repaired and ... not to worry... we're ready for the growing season!

As you can see from our Calendar of Events on page 3, we have a fun schedule of garden related activities lined up for the spring season. We will also hold another "Garden Contest" in 2006. The 2005 contest had some beautiful entries with a lot of good competition.

**NEW BLOOMS GIFT CERTIFICATES
AVAILABLE – DON'T FORGET YOUR
GARDENING FRIENDS THIS SPRING!**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Hello to Spring 2006; New Varieties for 2006; Tropicals for your Garden |
| 2 | New Services; Website; Garden Contest |
| 3 | Events Calendar; Theme Gardens |
| 4 | Duncannon Garden Club Update; Hours & Directions |

What's Growing On??

We are excited about the tremendous new varieties of plants available for 2006. One of them is a new heat tolerant *Osteospermum* in beautiful, bright colors -- Pineapple Blush (vibrant yellow w/blue center), Orange Dream (deep orange w/blue center) and Silver Purple (shining purple w/purple center).

And just when you thought *Coleus* were only for the shade, they've come out with some tough new plants that can take full sun. *Amora* (butter colored leaves and pink veins), *Defiance* (dark maroon with lime ruffled edges), *Christmas Candy* (large leaves with red, magenta, pink, green and white), as well as *Rose Explosion* (hot pink centers with burgundy edging) are some of the new varieties for this year.

If you are looking for something really different this year, how about some really cool "tropicals?" Timid gardeners might be reluctant to try them, but they are actually quite easily grown in containers and brought in for the winter. *Brugmansia Peach Parfait* (commonly called *Angels Trumpet*) is a 3-6' elegant "wow" plant that has pendulous, fragrant blooms and is great in containers. Another giant for that tropical look is *Flaming Golden Candles*, which have glowing yellow spikes of flower bracts that bloom all summer long. In the right conditions, this semi-woody plant can grow from 2-6' tall.

And for the hummingbird lover, try these three new varieties –

Shrimp Plant (*Justicia brandegeana*) looks like it is covered with cooked shrimp with red flowers surrounded by an elongated string of light red bracts.

Cuphea (Mexican Cigar) has red tubular flowers, attracting hummers from near and far.

Salvia "Black & Blue" has intensely blue flowers surrounded by a contrasting black calyce. This giant blooms all season long and watch the hummingbirds and butterflies compete for it..

NEWLY EXPANDED SERVICES

We have expanded our gardening services this year to include:

Decorating with live plants

- Make your special event even more special with a beautiful backdrop of live plants. Whether it's an indoor wedding or backyard birthday party, we can create a beautiful atmosphere for you and your guests. Live trees, shrubs and blooming planters will liven up any area.
- Your event can be beautiful and stress free -- we deliver, set up and take down.

Landscaping Services

- No time to clean up your yard this spring? Give us a call and we'll schedule your spring clean up which includes raking up winter's mess, edging, weeding and applying new tanbark.
- Want to update your existing landscaping with new shrubs, trees or plants? We can take out your old plants and install new plant material to give your existing landscape a fresh look.
- Dream of a new flowerbed? Let us create a new "theme garden" for you. We'll help you plan the location, edge the area, bring in fresh soil and plant your new garden with ease – and you can sit back and enjoy!

Specialty Containers

- We can create your personalized window boxes, planters, etc. Please drop off your items between April 17-23 and they will be ready for pick up on Saturday, April 29. Due to space limitations, we cannot keep your items past April 29.

For any of these services, please call Kim or Lee for a free estimate.

We will have both tanbark AND mushroom soil this year. While tanbark is a good "decorative" mulch, mushroom soil is a good "nourishing" mulch. Alternating these mulches every other year will provide a good soil balance for your plants.

WEBSITE

Our website is finally "under construction" and hopefully will be up and running by the time you receive this newsletter. Go to www.newbloomsgreenhouse.com for special sales, past newsletters, current inventory, frequently asked questions, garden club info, garden website links, combination planter ideas, gardening tasks by month and much more!

JOIN THE 2006 GARDEN CONTEST

We had a great time with our 2005 Garden Contest contestants. It got to be very "competitive" and some of our Honorable Mention winners vowed to win 1st prize this year!

1st Place
Karen Kelly
2nd Place
Bonnie Simmons
3rd Place
Betsy Strayer

Honorable Mentions
Diane Gassaway
Debbie Hammaker
Dolores Jeffries
Edna Kitner
Jim & Debbie Paroda

The 2006 contest will include these categories:

- Bold use of plants in containers
- Most friendly garden for hummingbirds & butterflies
- Unique combinations of both perennials & annuals in a flower bed or border

For entry details, please visit us here at the greenhouse or log on to www.newbloomsgreenhouse.com.

THEME GARDENS

Let us create a new garden area for you this year. Many people work from 8-5/M-F and have very few hours to "smell the roses" after taking care of family chores, etc. When you do finally sit down and enjoy your "quiet time," do you dream about a beautiful garden that allows you to relax and enjoy your free time? Think about these "theme" gardens and decide if one of them could be for you. If so, give us a call and we can create one especially for you.

(cont...page 3)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SPRING OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, APRIL 8 – 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Take an early look at all the cool new plant varieties for spring. Enter our Mother's Day Hanging Basket Drawing and pick up an application for the 2006 Garden Contest. Open house special – Weeping Cherry Trees at a great price! *Free refreshments.*

CREATE A SPECTACULAR PLANTER

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 30 – 3:00 - 4:30 PM OR

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 7 – 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Check out all the new plant varieties for 2006 and join us in discussing the various ways that you can create visually attractive and unique planters, baskets and containers for your deck, patio or porch. Bring your own container or choose from many new containers available at New Blooms. This will be a “hands on” workshop where you can gather ideas and make your own creation. *This class is free -- you just pay for plants and containers that you use. Please call ahead to reserve your space!!*

WATER GARDENING 101

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 21 – 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Jeff Bender, owner of Amity Hall Landscaping will discuss the rapidly growing trend of water gardening. If you have ever thought about installing a pond, Jeff will discuss the basics of pond installation and the delicate ecosystem that keeps an all-natural water garden in check – from fish, to aquatic plants, to bacteria. If you have an existing water garden but still have questions, please join us. *The class is free, but please call ahead to reserve your space!!*

TREE CARE MADE EASY

SUNDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 11 – 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Tony Kyler, a certified arborist from Good's Tree Care will be on hand to demonstrate the proper way to prune your shrubs and trees and discuss insect and disease control in your landscape. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn the techniques experts use in taking care of your landscape investment. *The class is free, but please call ahead to reserve your space!!*

We now have a great selection of WATER PLANTS – Floaters, Oxygenators & Marginals!

THEME GARDENS

Butterfly & Hummingbird Garden

Hummingbirds search for nectar in tubular shaped flowers, especially those that are red. They can “hover” so do not particularly need to land on the surface to feed. Butterflies, on the other hand, prefer a flatter shaped flower (or clusters of smaller shaped flowers) where they can land to feed. Adult butterflies search for plants with nectar and fragrance, especially those that are pink, lavender or purple. For baby butterflies (caterpillars), however, you will also need “**host***” plants where they can feed and cocoon. Here are a few of their favorite flowers:

Perennials – Agastache (Hyssop), Artemisia (Silver Brocade)*, Asters, Bee balm (Monarda), Black Eyed Susans, Butterfly weed (Asclepias)*, Cardinal flower (Lobelia), Chelone (Turtle Head)*, Columbine (Aquilegia), Cone Flower (Echinacea), Coral Bells (Heuchera), Coreopsis, Crocosmia (Montbretia), Delphinium, Foxglove (Digitalis), Gaillardia, Helenium (Sneezeweed)*, Hibiscus*, Hollyhock*, Ice Plant (Delosperma), Knautia, Lupine*, Parsley*, Penstemon*, Phlox (both moss and tall garden phlox), Pin Cushion (Scabiosa), Queen Anne's Lace*, Red Hot Poker (Kniphofia), Meadow Sage (Salvia), Sedums, Spearmint, Speedwell (Veronica) and Yarrow

Annuals – Ageratum, Cosmos, Cuphea, Dahlias, Dill*, Fennel*, Four O'Clocks, Fuchsia, Geranium, Flowering Tobacco (Nicotiana), Heliotrope*, Impatiens, Lantana, Mexican Sunflower, Nasturtium, Pentas, Petunia, Pineapple Sage, Salvia (Black & Blue or Red), Shrimp Plant, Snapdragons*, Spider Flower (Cleome), Verbena and Zinnia

Vines – Bougainvillea, Cardinal Climber, Honeysuckle, Passion Flower (Passiflora)*, Trumpet Vine and Wisteria

Shrubs – Abelia, Azalea, Butterfly Bush, Cotoneaster, Flowering Current, Lilac, Peony, Flowering Quince, Rose of Sharon* and Weigela

Check out our website for other “theme” garden ideas – ***Fragrant Gardens, Herb Gardens, Cut Flower Gardens, Water Gardens, Moonlight Gardens, Edible Gardens, Reseeding Gardens, Growing a Dried Flower Garden, and others.***

Duncannon Gentle Ladies Garden Club Updates

Upcoming events for the Garden Club:

- To raise money for Habitat for Humanity, the Garden Club will be sponsoring a Garden Tour of local gardens. For further info, call Pam Wolfersberger at 834-4644.
- Garden Club Meeting at New Blooms on Monday, April 17 at 6:30 pm. Review new varieties for 2006 and a "hands on" class to plant your own hanging basket, containers, planters, etc. **New members welcome** -- just call ahead to reserve your space!
- To join other Duncannon Gentle Garden Ladies events call Nanci Lycett at 834-5782

Don't be afraid to get an early start on color! Spring blooming perennials, forced bulbs and ground covers in window boxes or containers give a colorful start to the season, while waiting for summer annuals and perennials to bloom. Pansies, primrose and daffodils are just a few early bloomers that work well.

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Directions:

From Harrisburg -- Take Rt. 11/15 to the Duncannon exit. Turn west on Rt. 274. Follow Rt. 274 west for 1.3 miles to Hickory Drive on left. Follow signs.

From New Bloomfield -- Take Rt. 34 west to Rt. 274 east. Follow Rt. 274 east for approx. 6 miles to Hickory Drive on right. Follow signs.

Spring & Summer Hours:

Monday thru Saturday 9:00 am – 7:00 pm

Sunday's from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Closed Easter Sunday, and Tuesday, July 4th
Please note: We close earlier (6:00 pm) from July through October and will be closed for the season from November through February.

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Insert CLIP ART – spring
flowers??