

June 2006



66 years!



Growing with Gray's

A Seasonal Gardening Newsletter for the Willamette Valley

Bring The Feel Of The Tropics Home!



Create your own tropical paradise right in your back yard. Palm trees, hibiscus flowers, mandevilla vines, banana plants, and sweet smelling gardenias take you to your own island paradise. Gray's large selection of tropical plants and palm trees are ready now for planting in ground or containers.

Palm trees offer great foliage texture and bark interest. We offer a wide selection of cold hardy palms that are perfect for landscape use. There are several shades of green or blue foliage. We have a great selection of sizes to choose from.

Other noteworthy landscape tropics include flowering bananas and gardenias. Flowering bananas have large leaves of red or green and big flowers. Sweet smelling gardenias come in many sizes, from miniature to tree form, and several bush varieties.

Tropical plants have great vibrant colored blooms and lots of them. Tropical hibiscus blooms are large 6" flowers with many color choices. Angle's Trumpet (brugmansia) produce huge 8-10" trumpet shaped flowers. Mandevilla has numerous flowers that are long lasting available in vines or shrubs. Always popular bird of paradise has brightly colored orange blooms. Oleander offers brightly colored blooms surrounded by dark green foliage.

Stop by to see our great selection and warm up to the tropics.

For Members Only!

Sago Palms Large 5 Gal Windmill Palms Large 15 Gal
Reg. \$69.99 Now \$49.99 Reg. \$175.00 Now \$100.00

Have You Seen This Guy?



Chances are that if you have, he's got his really big family with him! Aphids are a very common problem in our area, especially in lush flowering plants such as petunias and other flowering annuals. One of the big problems with aphids is that they are very small and you often don't notice them until they've already devastated your beautiful color. The easy solution is to treat your hanging baskets, containers and flower beds with Fertilo Systemic Insecticide Granules before they show up. I've



been doing this for the last couple of years and my baskets last until late October - November with proper watering and feeding. These granules are applied to the soil like fertilizer and watered in so that the plant "ingests" it and repels sucking insects. As with all Fertilo products, your satisfaction is absolutely guaranteed!

Stuart's Plant Picks For Long Lasting Summer Blooms

Add a burst of summer color in your landscape. Summer blooming shrubs have long lasting flowers even in the heat.

Brightly, colored blooms that really shine in the summer sun.

Rose of Sharon hibiscus is valued for large flowers produced in mid to late summer when few other shrubs bloom. These grow well in the sun or part shade and any kind of soil. Single or double flowers come in shades of red, pink, white, or purple. Rose of Sharon comes in tree form and shrub form. Most growing 8' tall and 5' wide. Annual pruning produces larger blooms.



Rose Mallow hibiscus are shrub like perennials that produce 4' to 6' erect stem in one season. Foliage is soft green above with white hairy undersides. Rose Mallows feature extra large blooms up to 8" across.



Surrounded by a blue mist from mid summer until late frost, **caryopteris** are low growing shrubs that do best in full sun. Aromatic foliage is a silvery-green or golden yellow delicate texture. Though not well known it is one of the finest blue flowering shrubs.

These and many more are now beautifully displayed at the nursery!

What If Summer Never Ended?

Capture the feeling with the repeat blooming **Endless Summer hydrangea**. Treasured for their size and dense foliage, Endless Summer hydrangea also has the ability to bloom on new and old wood, creating a bounty of color that lasts all summer long.



"Lady In Red" hydrangea is brand new and will add color and beauty to your garden. This hydrangea has lace cap flowers that open a pinkish white and turn a lush burgundy rose as they mature. Foliage is rich reddish purple in fall with distinctive red stems and veins.

"Pinky Winky" and **"Quick Fire"** hydrangeas paniculatas are new this year from our Proven Winner series. Quick Fire blooms early summer and has a rosey pink bloom. Pinky Winky blooms a month later and has creamy white flowers that progress to a rich pink color in fall. Both have large blooms on upright growing plants.

Hydrangeas offer lots of large colorful blooms perfect for shady location.



New Introduction

Circle Of Life Plants

Gray's has long been a leader in natural and organic gardening practices, and we are very proud to be the exclusive retailer in our area for the new line of plants introduced this year by Ball Horticultural. CIRCLE OF LIFE™ plants have the following as their main features:

- Plant varieties with great garden performance
- Grown locally by growers who follow sustainable production practices
- Produced in biodegradable pots



We are excited about the possibilities that these new practices represent for our community and our world. Check out this line of eco-friendly and beautiful plants at Gray's now!

Look At Your Roses!

You might want to look at your roses, not just because they should be starting to bloom, but because they could be developing mildew or black spot with the recent weather changes. There is a very simple, organic solution, even preventative measure that will help your roses thrive and prevent or cure problems.



If you spray them with a little neem oil and Soil Soup, our rose specialists tell us the problems go away and the roses thrive. This organic one-two punch is very simple and effective!

The bugs are back!



Feeding primarily on aphids, ladybugs are a very earth friendly remedy for flower or vegetable gardens where chemical treatments are undesired. Sold in packages of 1500 you can have your own army of eating machines. Ladybugs will remain as long as there is a sufficient food source. Beneficial nematodes are microscopic, non-segmented worms that occur naturally in soil throughout the world. Their function and benefit is to seek and destroy target pests such as weevils, fungus gnats, crane fly larvae, grubs, cutworms, wireworms, fleas and more.

Easy to apply each package of 5 million nematodes will cover approximately 2 to 3, 000 square feet of surface area.

Organic Feeding Schedule For Summer

For the best results, we use E.B.Stone organic fertilizers because they represent the best value. All of their blends are organic and include humic acid (more info at www.graysgardens.com under lawn care), beneficial soil microbes and mycorrhizae (see the April 2004 newsletter on our website).

Annuals/perennials	when planting	Sure Start 4-6-2
Annuals/perennials	early summer	All-Purpose Plant Food 5-5-5
Tomatoes & Vegetables	every 4 weeks	Tomato & Vegetable Food 4-5-3
Roses	every 8 weeks	Rose & Flower Food 5-6-3
Flowering Shrubs	every 8 weeks	Rose & Flower Food 5-6-3
Fruit Trees	after fruit set	Citrus & Fruit Tree Food 7-3-3
Rhodies/Azaleas	after bloom	Azalea, Camelia Food 5-5-3
Lawn	as needed	Nature's Intent 9-3-4

Note: While each of these formulas is blended specifically for certain types of plants, many of our customers prefer to use the All-Purpose 5-5-5 because it is easier and comes in a 20 lb. bag. This is just fine and will produce great results.





30% off
excellent selection of
glazed, rustic
& terra cotta pottery

Good thru June 18



Grays Premium
Potting Soil #100558
2 For \$10

Don't Miss This!

Good thru June 18



E.B. Stone
planting compost
1.5 cu
2 for \$10

Good thru June 18

Pondmaster
pumps & all
pond chemicals
20% off

Pond-Mag 7



Good thru June 18

25% Off
Endless Summer
Hydrangeas
3 sizes
1 gal, 2 gal,
5 gal



Good thru June 18

Double Color Dollars
on all hanging basket purchases!

This includes the entire purchase!
We have a fresh shipment of hanging
baskets just in from the greenhouses.
They are beautiful!!
And . . . we have an excellent selection
of shade baskets to!



Good thru June 18

Summer Blooming Clematis



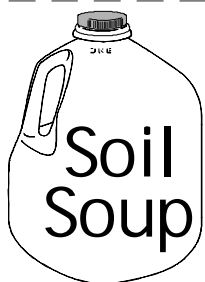
Several Varieties
& Colors
1 gal reg \$15.99
now **\$10.99**

Good thru June 18



25% Off
Topiary Conifers
Several Sizes & Shapes
Great For Containers Too!

Good thru June 18



organic compost tea
Reg \$2.99 gal
now **\$2.49!**

Works wonders on
vegetables, annual color, roses, all plants!

Good thru June 18

FREE COFFEE
while you browse!

This coupon is good for one free small coffee
from Good To Go! (6th St.) or
The Daily Grind (Springfield)
Coupon must be validated at any register

Good thru June 18



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*See details at www.graysgardens.com

Green Lawn - Clean Rivers It's Time To Feed Your Lawn



If you like a nice, lush, green lawn it's time to feed it for summer. The warm weather stimulates growth and without proper feeding, your lawn will begin to yellow (or brown). We recommend our specially blended lawn food with Duration II and III slow release nitrogen to give your lawn steady and balanced nutrition for summer.

Gray's Premium Lawn Food is the only formula available with 70% slow release (Scott's Turf Builder is about 16%), polymer coated nitrogen and specially blended for the Willamette Valley. You get the greenest, healthiest lawn while using the most environmentally conscious synthetic formula available anywhere, because our slow release formula works better than any national brand to prevent the nitrates from migrating into the river system.

Gray's Premium Lawn Food is available in 20 lb (3,000 ft. coverage) and 40 lb (6,000 ft. coverage) sizes. Of course, we'll loan you a spreader if you need one!

SPECIAL

For Members Only!

**Gray's Designer Series
10" shade baskets \$15.99!**

Good thru Jun 18

The Pond Doctor Is In!

Join 25 year veteran of water gardening Darren McCann as he guides you through the process and pleasures of backyard water gardening.

Beginning with construction basics, equipment, chemicals, plants and fish you can learn how easily and affordable it can be to add water gardening to your landscape. Pre registration is requested.

Saturday, June 17

10:00 at Eugene Gray's