

WILSHIRE GARDEN M A R K E T

April, 2008 Newsletter
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CELEBRATING 11 YEARS

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Established 1997

GET ON YOUR COLOR MARK, GET SET, AND PLANT!

Homeowners more than ever before are learning to coordinate their exterior accessories to achieve a visual cohesiveness, echoing the colors of their pillow selection with their outdoor rugs and containers. This visual blending of colors pulls together an entry or a patio, giving a home or an outdoor room a finished look.

First impressions are important. With well chosen, durable containers brimming with beautiful, color coordinated plants, the impression you make is sure to be a good one.

We have found several of what we consider to be attractive planting recipes with color echoes that feature plants commonly found in this area, which will come through the summer well, barring total neglect. These are meant to serve as guidelines for ideas and inspiration, and can be modified to reflect characteristics of the home or personal preferences.

Consider how the colors of containers and flowers will look next to the exterior of the home, the color of the trim and front door. Take the time to match the containers to your personal style and to the character and size of your home. This Antique Coin cast stone container has been planted with lime green Sweet Flag grass, Metallic Mist Begonia, purple Verbena, and Bordeaux Supertunia.



The colors of the Petunias and Verbenas echo the veins of the Begonia leaves.

The elegant Longwood Volute Handle Urn newly planted with a white theme contains green and white variegated grass, white Supertunia (2), Diamond Frost Euphorbia (4), Snow Storm Bacopa (2), and a small white bunny statue. This will be a large, lush, and airy planting.



This simple urn is made luxurious with only five mature plants: a Lemon Osteospermum, a Black Heart sweet potato vine, a Superbena Large Lilac Blue, a Supertunia Royal Purple Velvet, and a Creeping Jenny.



Container plantings contribute greatly to a home's curb appeal and a garden's personality and ambiance. Containers are focal points at entries, beside pools, and on patios; it is important that they are planted to their best advantage.

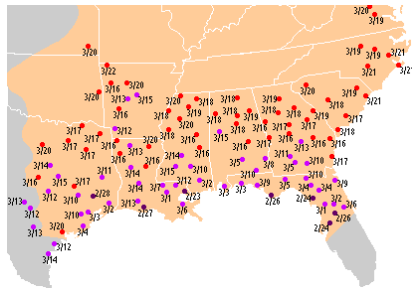
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HUMMINGBIRDS ARE COMING!

Everyone loves the tiny, speedy hummingbird. Perhaps it is due to those very qualities; they are a mystery that we can't quite get our hands or eyes on long enough to satisfy our curiosity. However, we will have another chance to spot them in our gardens this year if we provide the proper attractions: their favorite plants as well as a hummingbird feeder.



This migration chart shows the approximate arrival date of the first wave of the Ruby Throated hummingbirds from the Yucatan. The northern most dots are for the date of March 20, so the first hummingbirds can be expected soon in OKC.



A good way to enjoy the company of hummingbirds is to plant a hummingbird garden; the hummer garden helps attract them to your nearby feeder. Hummers have no sense of smell; they are attracted to highly visible plants that produce abundant amounts of nectar and they are attracted to feeders. If you use a feeder, sooner or later a hummingbird will come to investigate, and then you will be on his trap-line. It has been said that, in a given year, not one square meter of the U.S. or southern Canada goes unchecked by hummers in their relentless quest for food. Fill the feeders regularly with fresh nectar, wait and watch!



WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE

All hummingbird feeders seen in the newsletter are available in the store, from the simple hanging ball to this six port chandelier.



Two new Jeffersonian weather instruments, a thermometer and a wind gauge, have been added to complement the Jeffersonian rain gauge. Guaranteed for life, they are expertly crafted. The thermometer features a bimetal coil, allowing for accurate reading even in direct sun. Separate Fahrenheit and Celsius readings are on either side.



The wind gauge measures direction and speed up to 40 mph. The cobalt blue glass counter balance points into the wind direction. The uniquely beautiful instruments, made from brass and stainless steel, feature a pressure treated wood stake for ground installation and stand 48" high. Each will do its job well while making an artistic addition to any garden, fence, or deck rail.



Oil cloth pillows and tablecloths have arrived in vibrant yellow, red, pink, aqua, orange, purple, or white with floral design.



Pillows measure 14" or 18" square; tablecloths range from 48" square to 48" x 72" rectangle to 61" to 73" rounds.



New coordinating flags and doormats will brighten porch and garden. Each image is painted and signed by a watercolor artist before being turned into a garden accent. The doormats and flags are very fade resistant and washable. There are several flags representing each holiday and numerous seasonal flags and doormats, making them a repeat gift that will be used and appreciated.



APRIL 2008 TO DO LIST

- Prune winter flowering vines and shrubs after bloom.
- Plant permanent ground cover.
- Plant or repair lawns.
- Plant bare root or container roses, annuals, perennials, fruit trees, and evergreens.
- Feed house plants that are growing or blooming.
- Prune spring flowering or tender shrubs during or just after bloom.
- Plant vegetable seedlings.
- Plant summer and fall flowering bulbs.

LINDA VATER SEMINARS 2008

These seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. and end at noon, with time for questions at the conclusion. The fee is \$10 per person; seating is somewhat limited, so call now to reserve a space; **payment in advance is appreciated**. Light refreshments are served. Please join us!

Sat., May.10 "Your Summer Garden"

Please notice the date of this seminar is the Saturday before Mother's Day. You can do your Mother's Day gift shopping before and after the seminar; if weather permits, a visit to Linda's garden is planned following the seminar.

You can get interesting garden information by watching Linda Vater's garden segments on KFOR-TV 4:45 News with Linda Cavanaugh.

EXTERIOR DECORATING

Give yourself (or someone else) a garden retreat, or update an existing one. Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit followed by written suggestions to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store for details or to set up an appointment.



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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SPRING IS HERE!

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