

# WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

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CELEBRATING 12 YEARS

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Established 1997

## REFRESH YOUR SUMMER GARDEN COOL IDEAS FOR HOT OKLAHOMA GARDENS



Hot Oklahoma summers are usually hard on gardens and gardeners. At this time of year our gardens can suffer, helpless victims of heat and inadequate watering techniques.

We have had a reprieve, but for future reference the first thing to do to keep gardens cooler and prettier is to water well and wisely. Water lawns and flower beds in the early morning from 5 a.m. to 10 a.m. when the sun, wind, and air are cool and calm to reduce loss of water from wind and evaporation and so the water droplets will be able to dry before the sun can burn wet leaves. Increase the time that sprinkler systems operate. Inspect the sprinkler heads to make sure that they are in the proper place and of the proper height to reach all plants in their area. Trim plants or shrubs that may have become so large that they block the sprinkler. Add mulch to a depth of two inches.

Make sure that your pots are large enough to support your plant material. You can have pots connected to the sprinkler system instead of hand watering. Water them in the early morning also. Feel the soil below the surface to test its dampness. Use a shower head sprayer attachment for gentle, even watering and water only the soil, not the leaves and not the stem.



Water potted plants very slowly and thoroughly, concentrating on the outside rim where the smaller roots and root hairs absorb water, air, and nutrients. When possible, raise pots onto feet to improve drainage and air circulation, or remove planters from concrete locations and temporarily place them in a flower bed or onto grassy areas to help cool their roots. Trim leggy growth from potted plants to conserve their energy and reduce their need for water.

Remember the birds during the hot, dry days. They need at least one bird bath per garden, and most bird experts suggest having several bird baths. Place the bird baths in the shade to keep the water cool. Aside from providing necessary water for birds, bird baths provide an attractive piece of art in the garden, giving a more charming and finished appearance.



Birds also enjoy water that splashes and flows; a fountain can easily double as a bird bath. Everyone enjoys watching birds and hearing splashing water. Add a few fine details to make the summer garden more beautiful and enjoyable for years to come.

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE



A new shipment of beautiful glass hummingbird feeders and seed feeders has arrived and more are expected. The bold colors and sparkling glass act like garden

jewelry as they help feed the beautiful birds that add so much life to the garden. Shown in cobalt, they are also available in aqua and green. These gorgeous feeders make great gifts for many occasions.



We have received a shipment containing bird baths, glazed terra cotta planters in a variety of sizes, styles, and colors from white, green, cobalt, to cognac, and cast stone planters and fountains to embellish and refine any summer garden.

Whether for you or for a gift, bronze songbirds or bronze hummingbirds on a stake are tasteful, classic garden accessories that will last a lifetime.



Cast stone birds and darling empty nests are unique garden gifts or home accessories.



In response to requests, the Victorian lamb is back!



Fashionably chic black and white toile oil cloth tablecloths and bags are among those recently received.

## AUGUST TO DO LIST

- Edge beds, keep edge clean with shears.
- Keep garden tidy.
- Water.
- Water new and old trees deeply.
- Make weekly pass through garden to pull weeds that steal water and nutrients.
- Deadhead annuals and perennials or give them a good haircut—sometimes a plant can't look any worse.
- Add mulch to level of 2" to retain moisture and lower soil temperature.
- Prune once-blooming climbing roses and ramblers.
- Order spring bulbs to make sure you get the types that you want before they sell out.
- Divide older bearded iris rhizomes.
- Cut fresh flowers for indoors; it will encourage new blooms also.

## FLOWER OF THE MONTH



array of colors.

Gladiola is August's flower of the month. Native to South Africa, some are also found wild in Europe and the Mediterranean. With 250 to 300 species, gladiolas prefer growing in full sun. They grow 2' - 6' tall and carry approximately two dozen flowers on a stem. They are found in an

## LINDA VATER SEMINARS

Wait impatiently at your mailbox for the August issue of Southern Living magazine to see a several page spread of Linda Vater's beautiful and intricate kitchen garden! Way to be a national garden celeb! Watch this space for future seminar announcements.

## NEW DATE FOR GARDEN TOUR



Mark your calendar now for **Saturday, October 3** as this year's date for the Garden Tour for Connoisseurs, sponsored by the Oklahoma Horticulture Society. A fall date is a brilliant idea since it is the best planting season for almost everything and the weather is likely

to be perfect. There will be no home football games that weekend. With fabulous gardens and many new features, it just may be the garden event of the year. Be there!

## EXTERIOR DECORATING

This year give yourself a garden retreat, or refresh the one you have. In response to repeated requests, Wilshire Garden Market now provides an exterior decorating consultation service. By appointment and for a 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 more details or to set up an appointment.



**Let us help you create your outdoor living room!**

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Beautiful Gardens

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