

# WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

FEBRUARY 2012 Newsletter  
Vol. 9, No. 2  
Celebrating 15 Years

2821 Wilshire Blvd., Oklahoma City, OK 73116  
(405) 879-1121 [www.wilshiregardenmarket.com](http://www.wilshiregardenmarket.com)  
Established 1997

## OUTLOOK GOOD FOR SPRING

The outlook for spring is good for more than the obvious reasons: pleasant weather, green grass, flowers blooming, and birds chirping. We read and hear industry information that the average consumer does not, and in this case we want to pass it on because it is good news. January is the first Gift Market of the year in Atlanta, Dallas, Las Vegas, New York, and more. We have heard exuberant reports from our prime vendors and others that Market attendance was strong and sales were booming, the best in four years, and internet sales are up; that is a positive way to begin a new year.

Now let's talk about February; it can be rather perplexing for gardeners. Spring is weeks away, many days are very mild, but it can turn cold in a moment, causing us to rush out and throw blankets over our plants; so we must be patient. Adding to the confusion is this year's warm winter; we are classified as a cold region, but what do gardeners do when a cold region isn't cold? At least February is not as long as other months and it brings Valentine's, a time of loving thoughts and candy! Before polishing off the last piece of chocolate, gardeners can develop their goals for this year's garden and outdoor living areas and get organized.



This winter hasn't lived up to its Zone 7 reputation so far, but most of us are waiting to see if the other snow shoe drops. The new USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map, based on average annual minimum winter temperature divided by -10 degree zones, was redrawn on

January 25. Oklahoma ranges north to south from zone 6a to 8a, with OKC now 7a or 0-5 degrees F. Meanwhile, our daffodils are already blooming.

While on the watch for cold snaps, the avid among us will be pruning trees, starting to rejuvenate flower beds, finding misplaced tools, beginning to divide perennials, adding



compost, refreshing potting soil in containers, and even planting tulips and other spring bulbs if they have been properly pre-refrigerated.

Now, when things are at their barest, is the best time of year to assess the garden's structure, or bones. Bones are anything that is essentially permanent: walls, fences, boulders, statues, fountains and ponds, arbors, oversized pots in the landscape, or evergreens. Every garden needs bones to pro-



vide boundaries and focal points to enthrall the eye. Photographs of your garden in black and white will reveal gaps or areas that could be improved. Plan for change and begin your garden adventure now!

Advice from a nationally renowned garden designer: *Take a small space, get the best pots, the best plants, the best soil and the best accessories and do the best you can. It will reward you.*

## WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE

Our search to find unique, useful, and beautiful garden accessories and gifts for your benefit has rewarded us with some exciting products.

Just out of the crate, the newest handmade garden cottage is so charming with climbing roses clinging to the walls, its rich color like a pomegranate smoothie.



The new smaller roof garden cottages are meant to be planted and the plant material serves as the roof (not shown). Darling!



Fabulous colors from metallic copper falling to muted lime falling to amethyst characterize this Borealis glazed terra cotta container by Campania. We received numerous other wonderful containers that can coordinate beautifully and simply with your garden or patio.

Easy care glazed terra cotta birdbaths in soft natural hues with beautiful floral embossing will highlight a shady area. Wild birds will make these their favorite place to find life saving water and entertain you all year long.



## GARDENER VALENTINES

Show your love for your valentine gardener by and giving a useful gift that is also shiny and red, the symbolic color of the holiday. This classic watering can with brass rose is the best for watering plants in pots.



A shiny red stainless steel gazing ball is another fine valentine gift for a special gardener. A Victorian garden accessory modernized to eliminate mirror peeling or breaking, it makes a striking addition to an Oklahoma garden. Stands are available separately in various styles of cast stone or metal.

We love hummingbirds and hummingbirds love hummingbird feeders full of sweet nectar. Get your love a pretty recycled glass feeder in valentine red or any color. Hummingbirds return in mid-April; until then display it empty for its jewel-like beauty.



Nothing says *permanence* like a stone engraved with LOVE. Long lasting, timeless and indestructible, it's quite the gift!

Give a Wilshire Garden Market patio and garden consultation to start the spring season off right. Simply call the store 405-879-1121 or come by and we will create a Valentine gift card for you.

For a Valentine gift that is long lasting, won't cause weight gain, wilt, die, or melt, try a **gift certificate** from Wilshire Garden Market; they also never expire and they're lots of fun to receive.



## FEBRUARY TO DO LIST #2

- Plant and/or transplant trees and shrubs. It is too late when the buds swell.
- Feed trees, shrubs, evergreens and roses. Water in well.
- Spray dormant oil on roses to eliminate pests and their eggs.
- Start feeding houseplants with a fertilizer strength diluted 50%.
- Feed the birds to keep them nesting in your garden; they eat lots of insects.
- Start dividing perennials that need it.
- *Carefully* prune *summer blooming* shrubs, tangled honeysuckle, etc.



## PERENNIAL OF THE YEAR #2

Last month we announced the Perennial Plant Association's Perennial of the year, the Brunnera Macrophylla 'Jack Frost'.

Now another perennial has been selected by the



National Gardening Bureau. Each year they select one flower and one vegetable to highlight based on

popularity, hardiness, adaptability, diversity, and versatility. This year they added the first ever perennial, the Heuchera.

Heucheras are an American genus with more than 50 species. Heucheras originate from California to the Rocky Mountains, to the Gulf of Mexico; breeders have created a virtual paintbox of Heuchera foliage that didn't exist as recently as 10 years ago.



With their wide range of habitats, colors and forms, and their ability to thrive well in containers,



Heucheras can work in anyone's garden.

## EXTERIOR DECORATING

This year give yourself a garden retreat, or refresh the one you have. 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 405-879-1121 for more details or to set up an appointment.



We have furnished fine gardens for 15 years. Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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M A R K E T



**HAPPY  
VALENTINE'S DAY!**

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2821 West Wilshire Boulevard  
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