

# WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

July, 2011 Newsletter  
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CELEBRATING 14 YEARS

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

## FOUNTAINS COMPLETE THE GARDEN

It is officially summertime and in Oklahoma it is imperative to incorporate water into the garden. Water is cooling; its sight and sound are soothing on a hot summer day. There are numerous ways to incorporate water into the garden retreat. In addition to a swimming pool or fish pond, fountains of all shapes and sizes can provide the desired cooling, soothing ambiance.

Not surprisingly, humans crave seeing fountains, hearing flowing or cascading water, and touching it for pleasure, spiritual satisfaction or reflection. Fountains harmonize water and thus create a sense of harmony in the garden. In the past, public fountains, designed to impress as well as refresh, served as places to meet while collecting water for drinking or bathing. Now, most fountains are meant primarily for aesthetic purposes in home gardens and public parks.

There is a fountain suitable for every area of the garden. From classic to traditional to contemporary, there are numerous fountains available to beautify and enliven any space. No two fountains sound exactly alike; their sounds attest to the ability of their designers to transform a dry solid into a vibrantly wet work of art.



and cool, relaxing, reading a great book, on a shady patio in a chaise lounge while listening to a small softly bubbling fountain at your side.

New this year is a collection of diminutive up close and personal cast stone fountains that are easily situated on stands, tables, or pedestals. Imagine feeling calm

A low fountain can be tucked into a nearby plant-



ing bed, its flowing water a refreshing focal point, adding movement and life to the garden.



look of aged cast stone or metal, but are lightweight enough to install easily.

Every garden should have at least one fountain. Bring in a picture; we can help enliven and beautify your garden retreat with the fountain that best complements your space.

If you have limited space, think vertically. A small walled garden with a fountain becomes your own cool green haven, a peaceful place to escape from stress. A fountain fills a lifeless corner, adds sparkle to a pathway. Beautiful wall fountains made of durable fiberglass have the

## SUMMER GARDEN ACCENTS

Rain chains are beautiful pieces of art for the home and garden; after you have one, you'll want it to rain all the time just to be able to watch it. In glowing copper or weathered verdigris finishes, they allow rainwater to dance



down their shapes much more artfully than a gutter downspout. Styles range from the Zen like double links to fish and umbrellas.

Flitting from tree to tree cheerfully chirping, birds contribute a true feeling of life to the garden.



Most gardeners are avid bird watchers and want to attract as many songbirds and interesting species as possible. Throw a welcome party for the birds by adding one or more bird baths to your

garden. They will be happy and healthy and you will be rewarded by their beauty and their songs.

Summer means that we use our garden hoses frequently and there is nothing attractive about a garden hose, no matter what color it is. Hide the utilitarian garden hose in



an attractive, unbreakable brass (shown), copper, or glazed terra cotta hose pot. You will be delighted with its appearance and functionality.



If you routinely behead a beloved plant while dragging your hose through the garden, you need some sturdy hose guides. Placed strategically where your hose would damage vulnerable plants, it will keep the hose in its place as you water. These are available in either cast stone with an iron stake as shown or in

the form of an English key with a stake all in black steel. It is an attractive way to eliminate a common gardening headache.



Plants in containers may need careful hand watering in the summer heat. This classic watering can holds one and a half gallons, an adequate amount to refresh plants in a large container. The brass rose disperses water into small absorbable droplets instead of a stream that runs right through without being totally absorbed. The handles are rounded for gripping and carrying comfort. **After watering each container thoroughly with at least one can of water**, mix a tablespoon of granular water soluble plant food in a can of water to feed each container once a week; this will help them look beautiful even in the heat. (Always water *before applying fertilizer* to avoid burning your plants.) These are easily obtainable, useful accessories that will add to the beauty, ambiance, and enjoyment of your summer garden.



## A GREAT TRIP

What a whirlwind buying trip! We arrived in NYC Sunday at noon, met our Campania rep, Maribeth, found Christy's cousin at the airport, and went with her into Manhattan to see her darling new business, "Wiggles and Giggles" [www.wigglesgigglesplayhouse.com](http://www.wigglesgigglesplayhouse.com) a mother and child exercise/play facility with a great view of the river.



A customer from NYC recommended a restaurant and because it was cloudy and only in the 70's, we ate an alfresco Peruvian lunch at Pio Pio. It was a welcome break from the heat at home. We spent hours and hours walking,

sightseeing (St. Patrick's Cathedral shown), and shopping.

Then we headed to Pennsylvania with Maribeth. We arrived at the Campania Corporate offices and showroom, where we were escorted to our ordering session by Maribeth and Glenn, the company President. The Vice President and Creative Director, Peter Cilio, and his staff have done a remarkable job of creating 250 new items. We had gone with a long list of items from the current catalog that we knew we wanted, with the knowledge that we would be seeing many new pieces. We ordered favorite cast stone and glazed pieces and many new items; we were completely overwhelmed by the beauty and massive number of new glazed containers. Campania has found a new company with a renowned "glaze master". The ancient glaze master speaks no English; he has developed his skills and is the sole source of the process. We are very fortunate to be able to obtain his creations; the designs, colors, and color combinations are amazing. We wish him exceptional longevity.



On Tuesday Peter took us to his home and garden in Chestnut Hill, a distinctive historical garden district near Philadelphia. Its 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century homes were designed by famous Philadelphia architects.

We visited the garden of Nina Schneider. A garden designer and collector of unusual plants, she has created rooms with great visual depth in a rectangular space around her small 1950's arts and crafts home.



Susan Smith won Philadelphia's Best Garden; it is lush and sophisticated while completely unique. These three gardens are inspiring and invigorating.



## SUMMER IN THE STORE



Relax in luxury with a four piece teak patio lounge set: 4' bench, armchair, coffee table and end table. Buy the set and save; teak is an investment in relaxation for decades to come and it ages well. We carry Sunbrella fabric for outdoor cushions or pillows.



Show your patriotism with red, white, and blue glazed terra cotta pots and stars and stripes pillows.

Margaret Joplin glass art pieces are unique art for the home or garden; the colors are delicious, the forms appealing, and the glass is jewel like. When the sunlight shines through them, they appear to be lit from within. A number are fitted with LED lighting to illuminate areas of the garden in the evening.



## JULY TO DO LIST

- Deadhead and feed perennials.
- Trim back herbs.
- Water deeply, early in the morning,
- After watering, fertilize every two weeks with fish emulsion; follow directions.
- Keep grass 3" high to protect from heat.
- Fill bird baths full of clean water.

## FLOWER OF THE MONTH

The beautiful Water Lily is July's flower of the month. The Water Lily is a water plant with round flat leaves that float on the water's surface. Fragrant and showy, the flowers last only a few days. A few days after the flower is pollinated, the stem tightens into a spring to bring it under the water, where it develops into a spongy berry with up to 2,000 seeds.



## 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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M A R K E T



**HAPPY 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY!**

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