

# WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

October, 2014 Newsletter  
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CELEBRATING 17 YEARS

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

## TRENDING NOW: SLEEK, CONTEMPORARY, LIGHT WEIGHT

In the 17 years that we have been in business, we have noticed a dramatic shift in the style of garden containers. When we opened, very large cast stone planters were not readily available and glazed terra cotta for exterior use did not exist. Cast stone containers were primarily baroque, reminiscent of old world Italian and French gardens. Very gradually, styles have evolved. Perhaps the shift is due to the introduction of the Asian glazed terra cotta containers that are more linear, focusing on the shape and glaze rather than ornamentation. Another factor could be the shift to urban-industrial-loft apartments becoming more popular. In response to this shift, we have updated a room on our sales floor, including elements customers can use to update their homes and gardens.



We have incorporated fountains, containers, rugs, and pillows, primarily in neutrals, making purchases with this purpose in mind so our customers can see the items in person.



It is interesting to find that Asian pieces and antiques blend well with geometric patterns and contemporary pieces. With their simplicity and absence of intense labor, Zen, serenity, and prayer gardens have been growing in popularity, providing peace in a hectic world.

Whether crafted from light weight fiberglass or glazed terra cotta, chic modern containers are well suited to either stand on their own unplanted or containing one interesting architectural plant. By using any one of these accent pieces, you can easily update your style and decorate your garden retreat just for you, so you love being in it and sharing it with family and friends.



## WHAT'S NEW IN THE STORE



Our fall collections of flour sack tea towels have arrived, just in time to add a touch of fall to the kitchen. Their popularity is due to their appealing images as well as their absorbency and ability to provide a streak free finish to silver and drink ware. They are great to keep on hand for a hostess or friend gift, and we all need some for ourselves.

New from Campania, water bowls for the garden.



They offer water for birds and animals, a reflective quality to add interest in the garden, simple but beautiful designs, and a peaceful ambiance.



Beautiful solar lanterns are available in new styles ranging from floral cylinders to polka dot spheres; other shapes are available in sheer bronze. Solar charged during the day, they glow for hours in the dark, giving a romantic ambiance to the farthest reaches of the garden. Weather resistant and long lasting, they use small replaceable AAA batteries.

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More gorgeous new finishes in glazed terra cotta pots from Campania have arrived. The Angkor finish is among our favorites; a special process applied to the final glaze gives the containers a unique rustic yet sparkling, ancient yet contemporary appearance. These containers are fabulous focal point pieces for the garden.

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The salt, pepper, and Herbs de Provence handmade ceramic grinders are back in stock, this time with new



designs. They are both pretty and fun to use.

The miniature acorn cottage is the perfect fall accessory for fairy gardens in containers or in the perfect



little spot in your garden. Pair this with a dwarf conifer or two and a tiny bistro set made of metal ivy leaves and voila, you have a darling fall vignette.



New! An easy and very beautiful solution to large, blank outdoor walls—fiberglass reinforced cast stone plaques. Shaped with edges similar to a box lid, these plaques are much lighter weight than they would be if they were solid cast stone. Two styles can be hung either vertically as shown or horizontally by simply drilling two holes in mortar between bricks with a masonry drill bit and using two long concrete screws. A third plaque features a bamboo design.

## PAYNE PREMIER CARDS



It is almost that time of year again, when Payne Premier cards are available for purchase. The card is sold for \$50 each citywide; sales benefit the nonprofit Payne Education Center. The Payne Education Center trains teachers to prevent reading difficulties

in children and remedy dyslexia while serving as a resource and referral center. Card purchasers receive 20% off purchases from the hundreds of participating retailers from October 24 through November 2, 2014. You will be able to purchase cards at Wilshire Garden Market; we will send out an email notice when they are in the store.

## HUMMINGBIRDS NEED HELP

The smallest birds in the world, the hummingbirds are beginning to head south. The most relevant factor relating to hummingbird migration is daylight; as the light levels change in autumn, hummingbirds will purposefully eat more to gain weight for their long journeys.



Food is another important factor; hummingbirds will move along their migration journeys as food sources appear and disappear. The availability of insects, nectar producing flowers and feeders are important. Weather is yet another factor. Storms and winds can impact and delay their journey.

Mature birds start their migration earlier than juvenile birds. The younger birds take longer to build up their new strength before setting out on their migration. The Rufous hummingbirds have the longest journey—from Mexico to Alaska—and they begin travelling long before others.

It is important to keep your feeders up for a while (not letting them freeze, however) so stragglers will have some energy giving substances to help them complete their trip.

The second annual Hummingbird Festival will take place in San Miguel de Allenda, Mexico, October 9-12. The founders are the owners of the hummingbird feeder company that creates the art glass hummingbird feeders found at Wilshire Garden Market. The festival offers lectures, bird watching, workshops, art exhibits, craft market, and a full day of family activities, with participants from the US, MX,, Peru, and Venezuela. The theme, Beyond Borders, celebrates the hummingbirds' ability to cover distances without divisions: one bird, one continent, one habitat, beyond borders.

## FALL PLANTING FACTS

Fall is the traditional time to plant tulips and other spring bulbs. With warm soil and cooler days, it is also the best time to plant trees and shrubs, giving their roots a chance to grow before the hot dry days of summer.

Many times gardeners are told to dig a huge hole and partially fill it with a veritable feast of soft fluffy additives and cups of bone meal to stimulate root growth. Scientific evidence researched by a horticulturist with a PhD in Biology and Chemistry concludes that average garden soil contains adequate nutrients (primarily calcium and phosphate) to sustain plant and root growth.

When plant roots are in low phosphorus environments, they exude organic acids from their tips, allowing mycorrhizal fungi to penetrate and form networks that assist roots in taking up water and nutrients. If phosphorus levels are too high from the overuse of bone meal, the roots will not exude the acids and mycorrhizal connections will not form. Filling the hole with soft, extra rich materials will cause the roots to remain there and not branch out. In this case, less is more, saving both effort and money.

## CONNOISSEURS GARDEN TOUR



You will most certainly find the Oklahoma Horticulture Society's Garden Tour for Connoisseurs interesting and well worth your time, because the gardens are designed and maintained by the homeowners, making each garden unique to its owner. From a full blown vegetable garden to a tropical paradise

to well-manicured English garden and more, you will come away inspired with many good ideas. Tickets are \$10 for members, \$12 nonmembers, \$15 the day of the event or \$5 per garden. We will have tickets for sale at the store until the day before the tour, *cash or check*.

## OCTOBER TO DO LIST

- Finish preparing house plants to come inside.
- Plant trees and shrubs – keep well-watered.
- Clean up garden for the winter months.
- Cut back perennial foliage after frost, leave seed heads for birds.
- Cut back any plants with disease problems.
- Clean and sharpen tools.
- Keep lawn free of leaves.
- Clean and oil tools before storing them.
- Protect ponds from falling leaves with netting and remove leaves frequently.
- Force paper whites and holiday bulbs.



## EXTERIOR DECORATING

Are you in need of some inspiration for your entryway or patio? Wilshire Garden Market provides an exterior decorating and small space design consultation service. By appointment, for a nominal fee, we will make a consultation visit and follow-up report to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store at 405-879-1121 to set up an appointment.



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

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