

# Patt's Garden Center Quarterly

October, November, December 2013

## Holidays at Patt's

I'm sure some of you go through garden center withdrawals during the winter, but don't despair! We're open year-round and have a lot of fun stuff to offer throughout the holiday season. From workshops with LCSC Continuing Education, to our annual Soup & Shop Saturday, we have a little something for everyone. We have a great collection of Halloween and Christmas miniature garden accessories. We have tons of locally grown pumpkins, gourds and squash to provide autumnal interest indoors and out! The colors and textures of nature in the fall provide great opportunities for containers and home décor. It's also the perfect time to add some shrubs (Fothergilla, Blueberries, etc) and trees (Maples, Crabapple, Honeylocust) to your yard for a beautiful fall foliage display. Come see us for inspiration.

We will have a beautiful selection of locally-grown fresh-cut Christmas trees from Oregon and Idaho tree farms the week of Thanksgiving. We make all of our fresh evergreen wreaths on-site and will customize them to fit your personality.

The Patt's Pantry is fully stocked with delicious regional soup mixes, fresh honey, caramel corn and dip mixes for stocking stuffers and Wine Slush for hostess gifts.

Seriously, come visit us this holiday season!

- Kate and the staff at Patt's

## Fall Chores

Fall always means football season and snacks and cheering on your favorite teams, but it's also a great time to start putting your yard to bed for the winter! Use Cloud Cover and Freeze Pruf to ensure your plant holds on to enough moisture over the winter. Use row covers and bark mulch to keep veggies warmer



and growing longer into the season. Plant fall crops like Broccoli, Beets and Greens.

October is the perfect time to apply systemic insecticides like Bayer Trees & Shrub Insect Control to stave off borers and other pesky bugs. Feel free to call us or stop by with any questions.



## Polly's Pumpkins are here!

Check out our great selection of unusual squash, gourds and pumpkins for holiday decorating from our friend Polly in Juliaetta. Great varieties like Knuckleheads & Goosebumps, Lunch Lady, Cinderella and more! Edible squash, ornamental gourds...we'll have plenty! And don't forget to bring the kids to our Gourdimal Workshop on October 26th!



## Gourdimals Workshop

Bring the kids and join us **Saturday October 26th** starting at 1pm to craft crazy critters out of gourds and pumpkins! The workshop runs all afternoon, so you can stop by anytime! Channel your inner Dr. Frankenstein to help you build awesome animals using gourds, pumpkins and tons of accessories. Visit us beforehand to see examples made by our resident mad scientist Mary Lou Wayne. \$5 per project, no pre-registration required.



### The Gardener's October

- ◆ Continue to harvest fruits and vegetables. Watch for frost and protect plants for extended ripening season.
- ◆ Rake fallen healthy leaves and compost them.
- ◆ Cut back leggy and spent perennials. Divide and replant overgrown perennials, remembering to share with a friend, or plant in a container.
- ◆ **Attend Fall Container Workshop at Patt's Oct 6th**
- ◆ Pull finished annuals and compost if healthy.
- ◆ Cut gourds leaving 1" of stem remaining and put on screens to dry.
- ◆ Drain hoses and blow out irrigation systems. Flush drip systems with water to clear sediment, then drain lines. If we have a dry fall, leave a hose out since additional watering will be necessary.
- ◆ When weather cools, plant trees and shrubs. Stake new trees if located in a windy area.
- ◆ Dig and properly store summer bulbs. Ask for our handout about Tender Bulb Care.
- ◆ Prune cane berries. Spread fresh compost and mulch.
- ◆ Plant spring-blooming bulbs as soil temperatures cool down.
- ◆ Leave spent blossoms on rose bushes so hips will form and help induce dormancy for winter.
- ◆ Spray rhododendrons and azaleas and other evergreen trees and shrubs with Freeze-Pruf or Cloud Cover to protect from moisture loss (browning leaves) caused by dry winter wind.
- ◆ **Attend the Gourdimal Workshop for Kids at Patt's on October 26th. \$5/child. Starts at 1pm.**
- ◆ Start to chill spring-blooming bulbs for early indoor forcing. Ask for our handout on forcing bulbs.
- ◆ Sow Garden Sweet fall cover crop now. Till under



### **Deck the Halls**

As usual, our gorgeous selection of Christmas trees will come from Paradise Tree Farms in Flora, OR and from Happy Tree Farm in Orofino, ID. We will also have handmade evergreen wreaths (customizable to your specifications), Poinsettias, Paperwhites and Amaryllis bulbs, evergreen centerpieces and more! We'll even have a selection of Mary Lou Wayne Originals sculpted Santas, angels and ornaments! Come visit us this holiday season—yule be glad you did!

### The Gardener's November

- ◆ **Attend Holiday Miniature Garden Workshop at Patt's Nov 2nd.**
- ◆ Prepare roses for winter by pruning between knee to waist high. Strip leaves. Attach ramblers and climbers to supports for protection against wind. Mulch to a depth of 10-12" once the ground has cooled down after several frosts. Ask for our handout on Preparing Roses for Winter.
- ◆ Continue to rake and compost fallen leaves or run over them with a mower and use as mulch.
- ◆ Clean and sharpen outdoor garden equipment and store for winter.
- ◆ Continue to harvest hardy vegetables.
- ◆ Watch for earwigs. Bait or use traps of rolled newspaper. Hand pick snails and slugs or use bait.
- ◆ **Dormant spray fruit trees after leaves have fallen. For information on disease and insect spray schedules for apples and pears, visit your local extension office and ask for a bulletin on spray schedules for fruit trees.**
- ◆ **November is the perfect time to purchase Amaryllis and Paperwhite bulbs** for holiday blooms. Plant every two weeks for extended bloom through the holidays.
- ◆ Collect stakes and trellises; clean and store them for next season. Disinfect seedling containers. Clean gutters of fallen leaves.
- ◆ Prune dead or diseased wood from trees and shrubs.

### The Gardener's December

- ◆ Check winter protection of trees and shrubs. Deep water trees and shrubs that precipitation doesn't reach (under eaves, etc.). Dehydration, not cold temperature causes the most winter injury, so be sure to keep things hydrated!
- ◆ Begin planning for next year's vegetable, herb and flower gardens.
- ◆ Watch and treat for pests like scale, mealybugs and mites on plants overwintering inside. Treat with a granular systemic insecticide.
- ◆ To prolong bloom on gift plants (Poinsettias, Paperwhite or Amaryllis bulbs) water plants well and remove the decorative foil so excess water can drain.
- ◆ **Buy your Christmas trees, wreaths and poinsettias at Patt's!**
- ◆ **Attend Soup & Shop Saturday Dec 7th from 11am-5pm! Sample a few of the tasty soup mixes available at Patt's.**



## Small Business Saturday

Join us for Small Business Saturday November 30th. Support your favorite local businesses the day after Black Friday and start your holiday season off right! We have a great selection of holiday items like Amaryllis, Poinsettias and Paperwhites, regional soup mixes, dips and popcorn, as well as miniature garden accessories, tools, gloves and more!

“**You can't buy happiness, but you can buy local, and that's kind of the same.**”



### BIG Miniatures

We have a great new selection of Miniature Garden Accessories! The Fiddlehead Fairy Cottage collection is a whimsical set of miniature “abodes for the discerning fairy.” Each one has an opening for a tea light candle, so they will even look great in the house! We have tons of every day items like wheelbarrows and benches, as well as some festive holiday pieces. Check out our selection and then attend our Holiday Miniature Garden Workshop on November 2nd!

### Amazing Amaryllis

We get so excited for our Amaryllis to arrive each fall, as it means only a few weeks until big, beautiful blooms emerge from that bulb (and of course, it means we're that much closer to Thanksgiving turkey!). All they need is a little light, the container and soil medium of your choice and you'll have a great holiday addition to your home. Pair them with Paperwhites, or plant every two weeks for continual blooms. Check out our selection mid-October!



## Soup & Shop Saturday

Join us Saturday December 7th for our 4th Annual **Soup & Shop!** We'll be sampling several flavors of our delicious soup mixes from both Rill's Specialty Foods and Brocke's Heritage Soups. **Sampling starts at 11am.**

After soup, it's time to shop! We'll have plenty of fresh cut Christmas trees on hand, as well as handmade evergreen wreaths and centerpieces, and other great gifts for the gardener in your life. You can browse our great selection of Amaryllis and Paperwhites as well as the entire tasty stock of Patt's Pantry full of specialty food items that are perfect for stuffing stockings! Don't miss this!



### Tomato Tip

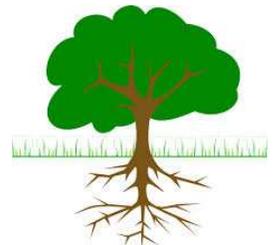
Have an excess of tomatoes this fall? Simply pop whole tomatoes in a plastic bag or container and place them in your freezer. To use, run frozen tomatoes one at a time under hot water and their skins will slide right off. Let them thaw for a few minutes, slice and add to your recipes during the last 10 minutes of cooking. Easy!



### Food for Thought...

“Mother nature is really very good at taking care of our plants and gardens for us if we'll just give her the chance. But we want to love our plants to death—we want to speed up the process. We're all in such a hurry these days and we want everything to happen faster. So we feel like if we put extra fertilizer down or if we spray with this thing or that thing, we're going to help the situation. **Feed the soil and let the soil feed the plants.** It's all about creating healthy soil. If you can do that one thing, and put the right plant in the right place, 95% of your problems are gone.”

Joe Lamp'l, host of the PBS series “Growing a Greener World” makes a good point, here.





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## *Fall Happenings at Patts*



Join us for all kinds of fun this fall and keep an eye on our Facebook page for upcoming events!

**October 6th**—Fall Container Workshop: Join us for an afternoon of transforming your summer containers into beautiful fall arrangements. Cost is \$60 and you'll take home your very own unique container bursting with fall color.

**October 26th**—Gourd Animals Workshop: Bring the kiddos and spend the afternoon crafting crazy critters out of gourds and pumpkins with the gang at Patt's. Cost is \$5 per child. Grown up "kids" welcome, too!

**November 2nd**—Holiday Miniature Garden Workshop: Join us for some big fun putting together miniature gardens! We have tons of great fall and winter holiday accessories to turn your holiday centerpiece into a conversation piece! Cost is \$60.

**November 25th**—Christmas Trees arrive at Patt's!

**December 7th**—Patt's annual Soup & Shop Saturday! Sample soups and shop our great selection of Christmas trees, wreaths, amaryllis and more. Sampling starts at 11a.m. Afterward, watch for the Patt's float in the Clarkston Christmas Parade!

**December 25th-January 5th**— Closed for the Holidays