

Patt's Garden Center

Quarterly

July, August, September 2016

Summertime

What a spring it's been, huh? With all the cool, wet weather this spring comes a huge amount of fungus and insect activity (don't despair, even nice people get powdery mildew). From roses to shade trees to colorful perennials, nothing is really immune to disease or bugs.

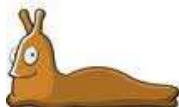
If you're seeing troublesome leaves in your yard, pick a fresh sample and take it to your County Extension Office (Nez Perce County clinics on Tuesdays, Asotin County Clinics are on Wednesdays) or bring a piece to us and we'll do our best to help.

The biggest thing to remember this summer is to make wise watering choices. When temperatures spike, be sure to water deeply and regularly. Choose a watering time (either early in the morning or late in the evening) that will minimize water evaporation and maximize water absorption. Build a reservoir around each plant to ensure water gets directly to thirsty roots instead of rolling around/off the rootball. Give a little extra to newly planted trees and shrubs on hot days, and a dose of Vitamin b-1 is always a good idea. And of course, keep yourself hydrated!

- Kate and the Staff at Patt's

Scratch those slugs!

Tired of slugs feasting on your vegetable garden? Many of us are hesitant to use chemicals around our veggies, so try this instead: place used sand paper disks at the base of your plants! Cut a slit to the center of the disk, put the disk on the ground around the stem of your plant (like a collar). The slugs won't dare cross that scratchy surface!



Also, you've heard you can bait slugs with beer traps, right? Many of us are hesitant to waste perfectly good beer on lousy slugs, so why not try grape juice? Grape juice is considerably less expensive and works just as well! Simply fill shallow dishes (pie tins, margarine tubs, etc) with liquid and bury right at ground level. Slugs will crawl in and be unable to crawl out. Refresh liquid as traps fill up with slimy slugs.

Music in the Garden

The Washington Idaho Symphony made a fantastic reentry into the



Valley's summer social calendar this year with the revival of the Musical Garden Tour in June. We had such fun being a part of this fabulous fundraiser for the Symphony. Attendees toured a trio of beautiful Valley gardens—the homes of John & Sally Desimone, Ray & Betty Bloom and Dick & Sherri McMillen—accompanied by small groups of Symphony musicians and ended the afternoon with a catered meal and silent auction here at Patt's.

What fun it was to see what gardening means to each of these couples! The Blooms impressive array of conifers showcased their appreciation for birds and other wildlife in creating natural habitats for them. The whimsical yard art and bountiful blooms at the Desimone's delighted guests of all ages and illustrated how a few annuals tucked into an established landscape add playful pops of color for summer. The elegant shade garden and established trees at the McMillen's was a perfect example of utilizing existing plantings to create micro climates for new plants. Thank you to all those who attended the Garden Tour and helped to make the event a success. Mark your calendars for next year—we hope to keep the momentum going! If you're interested in having your home featured on the Musical Garden Tour, stop by and leave your name with us!

Summer Suggestions

Try Vinca, Fan Flower and Portulaca for your sunny hot spots. Shady spots could use a dash of color with Begonias, Coleus and Impatiens. Our perennial tables are packed with cool Coneflowers, butterfly-attracting Scabiosa and a whole host of hummingbird-habitat plants.



July Gardening Checklist

- **Water, water, water!** Summer months require more deep watering. Remember to pay special attention to containers, hanging baskets, newly planted trees and shrubs as most all need **daily** watering. Mulch to conserve water and keep down weeds.
- Continue to watch for aphid, scale, slugs and snails, spider mites and earwig damage.
- Remove spent blossoms from annuals and perennials to prevent seed production which saps plant energy. Cut back petunias and use a blossom booster fertilizer to encourage bloom on annuals and perennials.
- Divide bearded iris after bloom. Dig up the clump and discard the old leafless rhizomes at the center of the group. Then cut them apart at the joints. Trim the leaves back to 6-8 inch fans and set them out in dry shade for a day or two to allow the cuts to heal. Replant the divisions 1-2 feet apart and 1/2 inch deep. Water well.
- Keep up with the harvest of berries, vegetables and herbs. Pull out and compost spent plants.
- Plant flower beds for continued summer and fall color. Continue to pinch back fall-blooming asters and mums until mid-July. Fertilize with blossom booster every 2-3 weeks until buds begin to show color. When plants start to bloom, feed once a week.
- Turn and aerate compost pile. If dry, add water to keep moist.
- Tend strawberries. On Ever-bearing varieties, keep the fruit picked so plants will keep producing. After harvest on June-bearing, feed plants with 2lbs 10-10-10 per 100 sq. ft.
- Cut your roses. Cut the stem just above a group of 5 leaflets so new growth starts. The leaves closest to the blossoms have three leaflets each while the leaves farther down have five. Cut as far down the cane as needed to maintain desired shape and size.
- Deadhead rhodies, azaleas by snapping off spent blooms at their bases being careful not to take new leaves also.

August Gardening Checklist

- Sow vegetable and herb seed for fall and winter harvest. Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, beans, peas, spinach, carrots and radishes.
- Cut back leggy plants that are past their peak bloom time and fertilize them.
- Fertilize roses for the last time no later than mid-August. Water at ground level or early in the morning to combat black spot, powdery mildew and mold. Prune climbers and ramblers after bloom.
- Continue regular and deep watering through dry weather.
- Control aphids, thrips, mealy bugs and white flies. Bait for slugs, snails and earwigs.
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September Gardening Checklist

- **Remember Customer Appreciation Day is Saturday, September 10th!**
- Fertilize and aerate established lawns to keep roots healthy for winter. Reseed bare spots.
- Harvest and preserve fruits, vegetables and herbs.
- Plant dill, parsley and winter lettuce.
- Water trees and shrubs deeply and regularly during dry weather. Trim and shape hedges so they are wider at the bottom than the top.
- Harvest annual herbs before frost is expected. Allow perennial herbs enough time for re-growth before winter.
- Plant pansies, cabbage and kale for fall color.
- Plant new trees and perennials so they establish well by next spring. Right now, Patt's has a huge selection, so shop early!
- Cut back leggy plants and divide crowded perennials.

Hummingbird Favorites: If you plant it, they will come!

It's so fun to invite Hummingbirds into your yard in the summer! We have a great selection of their favorite plants. Hummingbirds are more interested in the shape of a flower blossom than the color, so plant whatever shades of red, yellow, orange and purple that you like! Look for tubular shaped blooms on plants like Monarda (Beebalm), Salvia, Agastache—all perennials, deer resistant and cold hardy!



Try annuals like Fuchsia, Begonias and Coleus. They love the sweetly scented tubular blooms on Honeysuckle, as well. Plant some of these long-blooming plants in your patio pots to invite the hummers right up to your lawn chair! Hang a feeder nearby to make up for gaps in bloom time. To make filling feeders fast, we have ready-made Humming Bird nectar available! Take the guess work and measuring out of making our own by simply filling your feeders with our ready-to-use nectar. Available in red or clear.



Excited for Echinacea

Echinacea is a wonderful group of plants fit for all gardeners, regardless of experience or ability. Each year we are presented with more varieties to discover, much like Lewis & Clark who first encountered coneflower on their journey across the American prairie. These hardy perennials come in such a wide variety of colors and sizes, surely there is one that is a perfect fit for your yard. We've always been huge fans of Echinacea, or Coneflower, but we're even bigger fans now that they come in some many colors! You'll love the vibrant oranges and reds of 'Cheyenne Spirit' and 'Hot Summer'. The clear yellow blooms on 'Sombrero Sandy' help to show off our old favorites like 'Magnus' and 'White Swan'. All Coneflower are deer resistant, heat tolerant and make excellent cut flowers. Pair them with Lavender, Salvia and Coreopsis or give them a bed of their own and let them show off en masse.



Wine Slush

Since a BBQ isn't complete with frosty beverages, try some Wine Slush this summer! Such-A-Slush Wine Slush from Patt's is a perfect addition to any gathering. Add 1 bottle of wine and 1 bottle of water to this mix, freeze for 6 hours and enjoy! Any kind of wine will do. You can make a non-alcoholic version with non-alcoholic wine. Or, use your favorite fruit juice for a treat for the kiddos! For ease in serving, freeze mixture in ziplock bags so it thaws more quickly.



Shingletown Series

Good news, Miniature Garden fans: we have a brand new collection of Shingletown Miniatures! Choose from several styles of whimsical cottages and accessories perfect for attracting woodland nymphs to your yard. There are tons of tiny accessories to tailor a garden to fit your specific taste, from traditional gazing globes, stepping stones and birdhouses to brightly colored tiki torches, row boats and more. You'll love the new Merriment collection of Miniatures with an assortment of garden fairies and accessories done in artist Mary



Engelbreit's playful style. Bring the kids for an afternoon Miniature Garden project this summer! Commemorate a family vacation to the beach or camping with some of our outdoor minis paired with rocks and shells collected on family outings.



CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday September 10th, 2016

Mark your calendars for the 23rd annual Customer Appreciation Day celebration at Patt's! It's time to thank you, our valued customers, with a day full of great sales, good snacks and exciting new varieties of plants just in time for fall planting. Don't miss it!





Patt's Garden Center
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Happenings

September 10th: Join us for our **23rd Annual Customer Appreciation Day!** Enjoy a day full of great sales, snack and fun. It's our favorite time to thank you, our valued customers for your continued support with sales on every single thing in stock! Mark your calendars!

October 13th: Gourdgeous Gourds 5:30—7pm, \$45. Join us for an evening creating beautiful living Gourd centerpieces! You'll use Juliaetta-grown pumpkins, gourds & squash as your base and add all the trappings of fall—nuts, pinecones, sedum and more—to make your own unique centerpiece to take home.



December 1st: Holiday Terrarium Workshop 5:30-7pm, \$65. Join us for an evening crafting a gift for a friend (or yourself!) - a cheerful terrarium full of unique air plants and decorate like a Christmas ball or filled with holiday accessories.



December 3rd: Soup & Shop Saturday Sampling starts at 11am! Sample (and purchase!) some of our delicious Rill's Specialty Foods soup mixes while you shop our beautiful selection of Christmas trees, handmade wreaths and gifts for your favorite gardener.