

# Patt's Garden Center Quarterly

October, November, December 2016

## Fall Favorites

Football, changing leaves, pansies...we sure love Fall around here. We have a great selection of trees and shrubs just waiting to be a part of your landscape, and Fall is a fantastic time to plant. Planting spring flowering shrubs, shade trees and perennials in the fall allows them to spend the winter working on a strong root system in order to provide you with great flowers and growth in the Spring. Stop by often this fall to see our "gourdeous" selection of pumpkins, gourds and squash grown by our friend Polly Taylor Dennler from Juliaetta. Join us for a couple workshops, and don't forget to come see us for Soup & Shop Saturday in December. As usual, Patt's Pantry is stocked with tasty soup mixes, cider spices and Killian Korn popcorn. You'll love our Christmas trees and handmade wreaths during the holidays and we'll have a brand new selection of solar lights and gifts for the gardener just in time for Christmas. We hope you'll come visit us. - Kate & the Patt's Staff

## Plant for Spring Color NOW

Everyone loves the brilliant gold blooms of Forsythia each Spring, bringing with them the promise of warmer weather and more sunshine, but we tend not to think of them until the dreary days in January. Think of your favorite spring color now, and get it planted! Planting spring favorites like Lilacs, Peonies, Forsythia and Quince in the fall allows them to spend the winter working on a good root system, storing up energy to provide you with plenty of bright blooms come Springtime. We're all stocked up with beautiful trees and shrubs for fall planting, as well as your favorite flowering perennials.



SEA....HAWKS!

We have just the right gift for the Seahawks fan in your life this year—LED Christmas ornaments! These bright 4" bulbs are perfect to hang on the tree or in the window for the holiday football season. Choose from two bulb styles, or buy a set of six! Seattle tailgaters will love our vintage camper ornaments, too. We also have "12" popcorn from our friends at Killian Korn, a tasty game day treat of blue raspberry popcorn to help you cheer the Hawks on to victory.



## Stella Wreath Planter

This new lightweight wreath is truly stella-r! You'll love the sturdy, easy-to-fill design of this wreath—simply drop in two 4"



pots for instant color. The easy-hang design allows you to use an over-the-door wreath hanger or a nail and the wreath will lie flush with your front door, fence or wherever you want to hang it. Switch out your décor for every season by using florist foam and cut flowers, or fresh boughs and cones in the winter. If you're not feeling particularly creative, we'll be happy to make up something for you!

### 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.
- ◆ 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 Gourdeous Gourds Workshop Oct 13th. \$45 per person.**
- ◆ 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 and use as green manure next spring.

### The Gardener's November

- ◆ 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!**
- ◆ **Join us December 1st, for our Holiday Terrarium Workshop. \$45 per person.**
- ◆ **Attend Soup & Shop Saturday Dec 3rd from 11am-5pm! Sample a few of the tasty soup mixes available at Patt's.**

## Amazing Amaryllis

Our favorite winter pastime is watching Amaryllis and Paperwhites grow inches each day right before our eyes and enjoying those cheerful blooms in dark winter months. We'll have our bulbs in mid-October. Amaryllis and Paperwhites both bloom indoors with ease, simply plant them in a container in potting soil or sand, place in a sunny window, water occasionally, sit back and watch them grow! Amaryllis come in a variety of colors in shades of pink, white and red and make great gifts for anyone on your list.



## Deck the Halls

By mid-November, we'll have all the trappings of the holiday season for you—handmade evergreen wreaths and centerpieces, fresh cut Christmas trees and fresh cedar garland. We will also have festive Poinsettias, Paperwhites and Amaryllis bulbs and more! We'll even have gifts for your favorite gardener like Felco pruners, HoeDags (made in Lewiston!), solar yard lights and more! Come visit us this holiday season—yule be glad you did!



## Winter Weather Protection

The weather can be pretty extreme in the winter, especially for evergreen plants. Drastic changes in temperature and harsh winds sap the moisture from the needles of evergreen trees and drain the life from broadleaved Rhododendrons, Laurels and more. Try FreezePruf or Cloud Cover this year—you'll be amazed by the difference in the health of



your plants by Spring! FreezePruf is an eco-safe spray that improves plants' natural cold tolerance up to 9.4 degrees!

Developed by botanists, FreezePruf protects the plant externally and systemically by enhancing both its natural "anti-freeze"-like properties and its ability to survive ice crystal damage. The biodegradable formula is designed to resist washing away by rain or snow and one application lasts up to 6 weeks; simply spray on tender plants just before damaging frost is expected.

Cloud Cover is a clear, flexible polymer coating that holds moisture in plants and reduces stress caused by temperature extremes, transplant shock and dry environment. Use on plants that dry out too fast—hanging baskets and plants facing vacation neglect. Use as a protective barrier to damaging seasonal and environmental extremes (heat drought and moisture-robbing winds). Or, use when transplanting to speed recovery time.



## We've got you Covered

Now that you've harvested the veggie garden, cleaned and tucked away garden accessories, it's time to apply fall cover crop. Planting a fall cover crop (commonly called "Green Manure"), helps prevent erosion, suppresses weed growth and replaces nutrients lost from the soil.

To apply cover crop, harvest your garden, rake up the soil and rake in your cover crop seed at the recommended rate. The following spring when you're ready to plant your veggie garden, simply till your soil or dig the crop into the ground and replant as usual.

The preferred cover crops are members of the legume family. They fix nitrogen into the soil and contribute valuable organic matter. Our cover crop called 'Garden Plowdown' consists of winter peas, buckwheat, rye, vetch and clover.

Cover crops increase the soil's nutrients in two ways. Initially, while the cover crop is growing, it converts solar energy into carbohydrates. Up to 30% of the carbohydrates the growing plant produces are released through its roots into the soil.

These carbohydrates are extremely beneficial and feed the soil microbes that go on to feed future plants. In the spring, when the crop finishes its life cycle, the largest amount of nutrition is released into the soil when the cover is tilled into the ground.



## Soup & Shop Saturday

Join us on **Saturday December 3rd**

for an afternoon spent sampling delicious soup mixes from Rills Specialty Foods and strolling through our beautiful fresh cut

Christmas trees. Soup sampling starts at 11am. We'll



have plenty of soup mixes available for purchase, as well as our delicious spiced cider mix, evergreen wreaths and centerpieces, great gifts for the gardener—tools, yard art—and other festive holiday items.





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## Fall Festivities



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



**October 13th**—Gourdgeous Gourds Workshop, 5:30-7pm. \$45. Join us for a Thursday evening creating your own unique gourd centerpiece.

**October 22nd**—Marimbas & Munchies with the Grantham Marimba Band. Enjoy a delightful performance from the Grantham Elementary Marimba Band and sample some of our tasty spiced cider mix and soup mixes. Performance is at 10am.

**November 1st**—Tickets will be available for the Willow Center's Little Big Wagon Raffle! Choose from several awesome themed wagons, including our collaboration with Fuchs Flower & Garden Center "Garden Together, Grow Together" filled with Melissa & Doug kids garden items and great tools and gifts for the adult gardener.

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

**December 1st**—Holiday Terrarium Workshop, 5:30-7pm. \$45. Join us for an evening creating your own unique terrariums with easy care air plants and holiday accessories.

**December 3rd**—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.

**December 25th-January 3rd**— Closed for the Holidays