

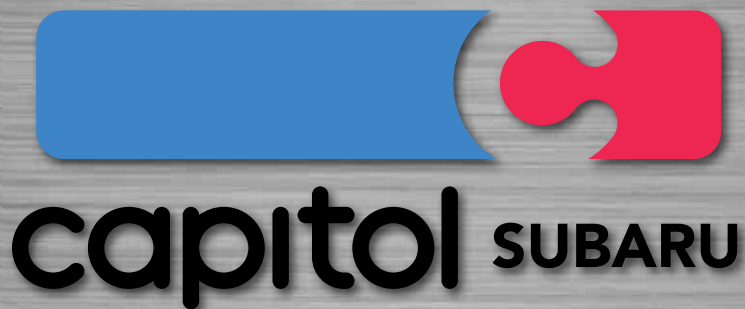
July 2014

garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

**The Gardens of
McMenamins
Edgefield**
Riches at the Poor Farm

Echinacea
Cement Leaves
Portland Japanese Garden's
Sadafumi Uchiyama



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Home Again, Home Again, Jiggity Jig

There is nothing like travel to make you appreciate life. We have just returned from our trip to Victoria, British Columbia and I have a big smile on my face. It was a fantastic trip and a wonderful shake-down trip for future Garden Time tours. We took 25 of our viewers and fans to Victoria and toured a nice assortment of private and public gardens. Our tour guide Joan was a wealth of local historical and plant knowledge as was our tour bus driver Kent! Our tour organizer, Carolyn, from Time to Travel Tours did an excellent job of making sure everyone had their tickets and bags taken care of. It went so well that we have had a number of our tour guest sign up for our next trip to Costa Rica in January. That tour will leave on the 12th of January for 12 days in the sun! Travel is included including your airfare from Portland and includes 21 of your meals. Just go to the Garden Time home page and click on the little airplane for more information. It is incredibly affordable and is even more so until the 11th of July. Until the 11th you can enjoy \$100 savings off the trip. Be sure to check it out.

While warm weather is the case in Costa Rica most of the year, July is the start of the warmer weather here in the Pacific Northwest. Gardeners are relishing in the rewards of hard work, well done from chores done in the spring. Plants are blooming and fruit is getting ripe on the vine. These tie in well with a couple of stories in this month's magazine. Judy tackles fresh fruit with her story on raspberries. These members of the rose family are not only tasty, they are versatile too. You can cook, can and bake with them, not to mention they are delicious right off the plant! Judy fills us in on the different cultivars including some of the smaller 'patio' varieties which go well in containers on decks and patios. When we think of the blooming plants of summer, Echinacea also come to mind. Therese takes a look at this 'got to have it' plant which has become a favorite in the NW garden. The new colors and styles are eye popping. We also learn how something so beautiful is tied to the hedgehog and the sea urchin! Therese also fills us in on the purported medicinal properties of this garden 'winner'.

To 'cement' this month's issue we also take a hard look at concrete. First William and Judy show you how to make cement leaf castings that you can use for garden art or household decoration. It is not as hard as you think it might be and Judy and William walk you through the process step by step. Next David talks about concrete repair and how to get rid of the cracks in your patios and walkways. There are special products out there and David talked to our go-to fix it gal, Amber at Parr Lumber for recommendations on how to do this project successfully.

There is still stuff to do in the garden, but there is also time to relax as well. We hope you have a great time in your garden with family and friends.

Have a safe and happy 4th of July,

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

Garden Time Magazine • July 2014 • Volume 6, No. 7, Issue #64

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Riches at the Poor Farm

The gardens at McMenamins Edgefield are a treasure for all the senses.

by Sarah Gustin



Edgefield tower

If you're looking for some week-end fun this summer, look no further than McMenamins Edgefield gardens. McMenamins Edgefield is a beautiful 74 acre site that was once the county poor farm, where the impoverished would go to live and work off their debts. It has since been renovated into a rustic, sprawling hamlet. This beautiful excursion can take a whole day, so head out early to eat, drink, and wander the amazing venue.

I and some of Gustin Creative Group went out to Edgefield to do some in-depth research for ourselves, and boy were we floored! We started by grabbing a beer at one of the many, many, bars on the site, and we began to mosey.

The first thing to catch your eye at Edgefield is the vineyard adjacent to the parking lot. There are actually two vineyards on site, and both are harvested annually to supply the grapes for select



McMenamins' wines. The 3 acre entry vineyard is planted with exclusively Pinot Gris grapes, which can be enjoyed in the form of Poor Farm Pinot Gris at the Edgefield Winery tasting room. The second vineyard is planted with Syrah grapes.

There are more than 50 varieties of fruits, herbs and vegetables farmed on the Edgefield property, not to mention the countless

other non-edible plants scattered around the estate. Also bordering the parking area, you'll find the beautiful herb garden. With tree lined shaded pathways and cozy, tucked away benches, this is the perfect spot to sit with a drink and watch as birds glide through the garden to the quirky birdhouses lining the fence, as well as butterflies and the occasional hummingbird. This garden was the first to be cultivated on



Walk through the vegetable gardens. Many of the vegetables and fruits grown here are used at the on-site restaurant.

the Edgefield estate, and while chatting with friends, it's easy to forget that you are not in your own backyard.

Strolling past the golf course (where there is a bar at nearly every hole), you'll find the quarter acre vegetable garden. This practical patch is where the Black Rabbit Restaurant acquires many of the seasonal organic ingredients for their farm to table menu. It is even fertilized with compost that has been made on the grounds!

If it's getting too warm to meander in the open, you can always take a break in the orchard.



This little bunny is enjoying the vinyard where the Edgefield winery grows the grapes for many of their signature wines.



Saunter through the trees and enjoy a cool, shady spot to rest and chat. The nearby picnic tables are often a gathering place for social groups to put their feet up and enjoy the day.

The gardens of McMenamins Edgefield are both quirky and comfortable. The quirky casual atmosphere, beautiful surroundings, great food and drink ensure that everyone you meet has a smile on their face. Edgefield is an experience and I for one cannot wait to go back.

McMenamins Edgefield

2126 S.W. Halsey St.
Troutdale, OR 97060

Local: 503-669-8610
Elsewhere: 800-669-8610

www.mcmenamins.com/edgefield



Edgefield often hosts garden sales where you can purchase plants grown on the grounds.



The orchard on site.

Events

15th Annual Cracked Pots Garden Art Show

Tuesday July 22: 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday July 23:
10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Plant Sale: Noon to 5 p.m. both days
Free, All ages welcome!

Estate to Table Dinner

Join us for an evening in the middle of Edgefield's vegetable garden featuring a menu and beverages created and produced on the Edgefield property.

Wednesday August 13: 7 p.m.
\$95, tickets available at cascadetickets.com, 21 and over.

Oregon Distillers Festival

More than 100 handcrafted spirits from 20+ Oregon Distillers Guild members from around the state. Guests can sip and saunter along a backdrop of blue skies and yellow sunflowers while sampling some of the best Oregon-made spirits.

Saturday July 12: 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.
\$30 in advance, \$35 day of, tickets available at cascadetickets.com, 21 and over.



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Echinacea Sombbrero™ Sandy Yellow

- Hardy to Zone 5
- Full sun
- Drought tolerant once established
- Height-24" to 26"
- Deadheading recommended to prolong bloom time
- No staking required
- Deer resistant
- Little to no fertilizer

Summer conjures up warm afternoons spent outside enjoying the vast array of colorful flowers at their peak this time of year: petunias bursting with color covering bare earth, vibrant daylilies emerging over the tops of their strappy leaves and stately daisy-like flowers nodding in the breeze. One such perennial that is at its best in summer is Echinacea, commonly known as the cone flower. The genus Echinacea comes from the Greek word echinos meaning 'hedgehog' or 'sea urchin' and refers to the bristly, spiky central cone of the flower. Echinacea is a native of central and eastern North America and is a member of the Asteraceae family.

Along with its landscape and prairie appeal, Echinacea is well known for its herbal and medicinal uses. Thought to boost the immune system, herbalists have used both the roots and the leaves to prevent many illnesses. Echinacea is best known for soothing sore throats and reducing cold symptoms. From the mid-19th century through the 1930s in America, Echinacea was used as an herbal medicine and a pain reliever. Echinacea is still used today as an herbal remedy for colds but most of us just enjoy it as a perennial in our gardens.

Whether the traditional dark pink and purple varieties or the newer reds and yellows, Echinacea adds a beautiful statement to your summer border. Provide this hardy pe-

Prescription for a Colorful Garden

Well known as an herbal medicine and pain reliever, Echinacea's bright hues and spiky texture is a cure for the blahs.

by Therese Gustin



Echinacea Sombrero™ Salsa Red

- Hardy to Zone 5
- Full sun
- Drought tolerant once established
- Height-24" to 26"
- Deadheading recommended to prolong bloom time
- No staking required
- Deer resistant
- Little to no fertilizer



Echinacea Sombrero™ Flamenco Orange

- Hardy to Zone 5
- Full sun
- Drought tolerant once established
- Height-24" to 26"
- Deadheading recommended to prolong bloom time
- No staking required
- Deer resistant
- Little to no fertilizer

PHOTO CREDIT: PLANTSELECT.CA



Echinacea Sombbrero™ Lemon Yellow

- Hardy to Zone 5
- Full sun
- Drought tolerant once established
- Height-24" to 26"
- Deadheading recommended to prolong bloom time
- No staking required
- Deer resistant
- Little to no fertilizer

rennial with well drained soil and lots of sunshine and it will bloom clear through to frost. It is also a bee and butterfly magnet in your garden and makes an excellent cut flower in fresh arrangements. If the flowers are not cut down in the fall, the cones provide food for the birds through the winter.

It seems lately more and more varieties of Echinacea are being introduced onto the market every year. One of the best new series is the Sombbrero™ series by Darwin Perennials. What makes this series different from the others are its unique colors and strong sturdy stems. Some of the taller varieties of Echinacea have a tendency to flop if not staked, but this series boasts strong, sturdy well-branched stems with abundant flowers.

The National Garden Bureau chose Echinacea as the '2014 perennial of the Year' because of the many available flower colors and shapes as well as the fact that they are a staple in the American garden. Al's Garden Centers and Portland Nurs-

ery carry some of the varieties of Sombbrero™ Echinacea. You can also check with the independent garden centers near you for availability. Add one of these easy care, stunning Sombbrero™ series perennials to your garden and spend your warm summer days enjoying their vibrant beauty.





**Echinacea Sombbrero™
Hot Coral**

- Hardy to Zone 5
- Full sun
- Drought tolerant once established
- Height-16" to 18"
- Deadheading recommended to prolong bloom time
- No staking required
- Deer resistant
- Little to no fertilizer

**New variety in 2015 Echinacea
Sombbrero™ Adobe Orange**

- Hardy to Zone 5
- Full sun
- Drought tolerant once established
- Height-24" to 26"
- Deadheading recommended to prolong bloom time
- No staking required
- Deer resistant
- Little to no fertilizer

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Cementing Relationships

How to turn some concrete, a leaf and a free afternoon into your own garden art.

by William McClenathan

This month's back yard segment is how to make cement leaves. Judy and I decided this would be a fun project to do together, so we met up on a Wednesday evening after work.

It really was a much simpler project than I had anticipated. Plus, when done with someone you enjoy as much as I do Judy, it becomes a very fun event.

Most of us love the flowers that our gardens bring us. And many of us are still just now learning how to appreciate the foliage of plants.

This project is great not only because you can delve into your creative skills but also because it helps us to really look at leaves from a different perspective. When used in this procedure, they are never 'just foliage'.

We found too that a little of the cement mixture goes a long way. This makes it even better to have a couple of friends join you.

The entire process is easy. Here is the list of supplies you will need.

Supplies

- Portland Cement. The amount will depend on how many you make. But remember, a little of this mix goes a long way.
- Play Sand. See comment on the Portland cement.
- Water.
- Wheel barrow, or a very large container to do the mixing in.
- Plastic drop cloths
- Shallow Boxes or some other

type of containers.

- Plastic wrap like Saran Wrap
- Plastic Gloves
- Leaves

Now, all you need to do is some planning.

We suggest thicker leaves like Hostas' or Gunneras'. Leaves such as these hold up better and often have great veining which adds more interest to your final project. The leaves need to be as freshly cut as possible.

You will also need some kind of a container, like a big plastic crate or sturdy boxes to form the mold in. but it is harder to work on the leaves if the containers are too deep, so shallow is better.

Step 1

This is always the hardest, eh?

You do not have to use boxes or containers for the molding process if you have the table space to leave the leaves for at least 3 days while drying.

If this is the case, spread a drop cloth on the table.

If not, place the boxes up where they are easily accessible.

Then make piles of soil. This is to support the leaves while the weight of the cement is on them until they dry.

You may use sand or potting soil. Either one works well.



Moisten the piles and pat them down carefully to firm them up a bit.

Now place a sheet of the Syran wrap over the tops of each pile. This is to make removing the leaves after they dry less messy and easier and keeps the cement from coming into contact with the piles of sand or soil. Judy and I found this to be very helpful.

After you have chosen your leaves, make sure they are clean and then place them on the Syran wrap.

Now this part can be a bit frustrating and tricky. Remember, that the top of the leaf is what you will see when the product is finished.

With large leaves like Gunneras, you could make them convex. This could then become a charming Toad House when dry. Or if concaved, a beautiful bowl.

This is where the creativity kicks in. So think about what you want to use your leaf castings for.

And make sure the veining on the leaves is where you can see it (the 'bottom' of the leaf) as this is what the concrete will capture when it dries.

Step 2

In your wheel barrow or large container, mix 1 part Portland cement with 3 parts sand.



Slowly...and I cannot stress this enough, slowly add a small amount of water until the mixture become like whipped cream. Your trowel should be able to make a curl, like on the top of a Dairy Queen ice cream cone or a delicious butter cream frosting. The mixture should be very malleable and moist but hold its shape for a bit before starting to flatten.

I, being a long term construction worker from youth, knew this and still added more water then I should have. Don't do what I did. It is always easier to add more water than to add more sand and concrete.

Step 3

Now add globs of the mixture on to the

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top of the leaves. Gently spread it over the entirety of the leaf, staying as close to the edges as possible until it is covered. Also, it is important to add a bit thicker layer where the main stem of the leaf is, generally right down the middle. This will help give it more strength, especially if you are working with very large leaves.

You are looking for about a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch covering of the mixture...a little more down the middle stem, a bit less on the edges.

Let them dry for a minimum of 24 hours. More is always better. Ours dried for 3 days. Also keep them out of direct all day sun the first day or two until they have dried substantially.

Step 4

After they have dried, peel back the leaf from the cement. If some of the bits of it are stubborn or seem stuck, a stiff brush may be utilized to scrub the remainder off.

Your new concrete leaves will cure in 30 days.

Now you can do many things with your new cement leaves.

You can paint it with diluted latex paint with water at a 1:1 ratio. Simply brush the paint on. If you want to, brush it on and then immediately wipe off and excess. This will highlight the veining more and reveal even more beauty of the leaf.



You could also use concrete stains and concrete sealants as well. And if you really wanted to get creative, you could even add the stain to the mix before you mold the leaves.

I did a Hosta leaf. I left the stem in place and when it dried, it left a hole, so I will be hanging mine. Which made me think that it would be cool to do several smaller leaves that way, and create a wind chime.

You could also add a bit of sand around the edges when they are wet. That adds a cool effect. Or maybe add glitter, or bits of colored sand or tiny pebbles. Really, you are limited by nothing except yourself.

Whatever you do, have fun. I know Judy and I did.





Coming Full Circle

Sadafumi Uchiyama's path through the garden of life has returned him to his family's roots.

by William McClenathan



Sadafumi Uchiyama

The paths we follow are almost always circular in nature, one path seeming to take us far away from our true selves and yet as time passes, we often discover we are back where we belonged from the start.

Such is the life of Sadafumi Uchiyama, the Garden Curator of The Japanese Garden here in Portland.

Although most of our histories begin with our births, Sada's began decades before.

His family is Japanese, and that rich and vibrant history which is filled with deep cultural and familial traditions, had already planned his life path long before his own father was born.

His grandfather owned a landscape design and maintenance company. Within Japanese culture, that is what his children, grandchildren and all future heirs would become.

So by the time Sada was born, he already had 3 bosses; a grandfather, a father and an older brother. His life was already planned.

All through school, he did indeed work in the business, until he graduated. He realized then it was not what he wanted to do...or so he thought at that time.

Instead, he went to college for Computer Science, eventually ending up working in a Nuclear facility.

But at the age of 22, his family beckoned him to return to the family business. But he was drawn once again to some other path in that moment. He had a yearning but as with so many young people, could not define what it was even if he knew what it wasn't.

So he joined the Peace Corp and spent time in Tanzania.

But the return to Japan was short lived again as he applied for and was accepted in the JICA, Japan International Corporation Agency. This falls under the 'Ministry of Foreign Affairs' and much like the Peace Corp, would send citizens to other lands to assist them. At this time, the Japanese government was very concerned with helping other nations and countries which were in need. For the next 3 years Sada found himself in yet 2 more cultures which were far removed from his beloved homeland of Japan...Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

It was during this time in his life that some realizations begin to form, questions, specific questions formed in his mind.

He realized he wanted to learn. He was surrounded by poverty, the poor and starving, as this was right after a war in that area of the world.

He pondered what he wanted to be, what kind of man he wanted to become. He understood finally

that he was searching for “a fundamental of what life means”.

When his time ended in JICA... the understanding that he could not return to Japan again became very clear to him. Most Japanese followed a specific path of school, college, career. But by now, Sada was almost 30...he felt he was out of place in his own culture, that he had fallen far behind the pack.

And as with millions of this planet's citizens, he ventured to America.

There was a friend of his living in North Carolina studying at the University of North Carolina. Sada headed there and went back to school from '86-'88. His studies this time though were language and social sciences. With his previous schooling in Japan, he was able to graduate. But a diploma was not all North Carolina gave him. He also met and right after graduation married his wife. She also graduated with a degree in Landscape Architecture.

It was decided, they would remain in America and make it their home.

It seemed like Sada had finally found his path through the garden of life. A garden which had been more harsh than beautiful many times.

However, there was a price to pay for this happiness.

Shortly after he had graduated and was married, he received the heartbreaking information that because of his decisions, his family was renouncing him.

Now to Americans, this may not



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seem like such a big deal. But to the Japanese, this is a harsh thing. And even though Sada and his family are once again united, in their culture, it was something the family had to do to save face within their community.

It was not long though before Sada and his new bride choose to get on with their new life in America. They did this by moving to Champaign, Illinois, both working for the Horticulture field in landscape design.

And then, in 1993, Sada's wife showed him a full page add in the back of a Landscape Architect magazine. It was for a 'Design Department Manager' at the Japanese Gardens in Portland Oregon.

As Sada read the requirements, he realized he had every single one of them...so he applied.

Clearly, he got the position and in 1994 of October, they moved from Champaign to Portland, where they have lived ever since.

As the current Garden Curator, Sada finds he has much less time to actually design nowadays. He openly admits to missing that aspect of his position.

But that loss is trumped to him by assisting other Japanese Gardens across America. One such recent

trip was to The Denver Japanese Gardens. He also enjoys the relationship with Portland's sister city in Sapporo, Japan.

*He also is learning new things himself still. Like how to teach the 7 gardeners who work with him at the Japanese Gardens. He has realized the differences in how Japan and America consider the art of teaching the skill of gardening. He says that he is, "withdrawing the savings of my knowledge to make this change in teaching both the physical aspects of placement and the reasons why things are placed as they are in a garden".

He now looks forward to not only working with these 7 gardeners, but also teaching others as well..."to help them and myself in continued learning".

Another delightful thing he shared with me was a few weeks ago, there were some timbers found on the Oregon coast, awash from the tragic tsunami which hit his island nation 2 years ago.

Sada has already begun the process to find the original owners, if possible, and if they are amenable to the idea, creating some kind of structure with them here in the Japanese Gardens in Portland.

When I asked him if he could be more specific, he





said, "No. because even though they have found their way to dry land, conceptually, they are still floating". Simplistically and perfectly described.

What plans are for the future of the gardens? There is indeed some, one of which is a proposed expansion. This would allow the offices and gift areas to be outside of the entrance, allowing the true gentle quietness and meditative essence of the gardens to permeate the space even more.

When I asked him if there were any regrets on the path he chose, he said "No, it has been very long, but ultimately, my path has lead me back to the garden". I think his Grandfather would be very pleased.

*Authors note:

For over an hour, I was fortunate enough to get to spend time with this amazing human while working

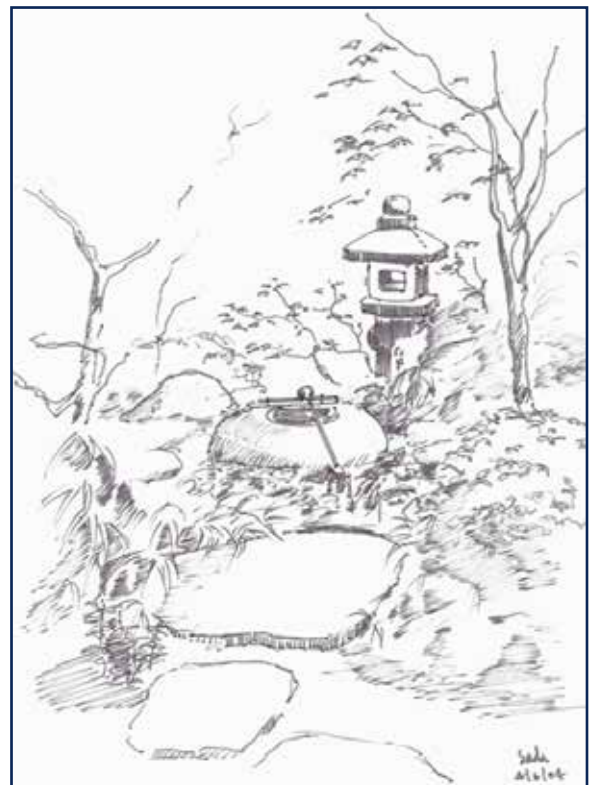
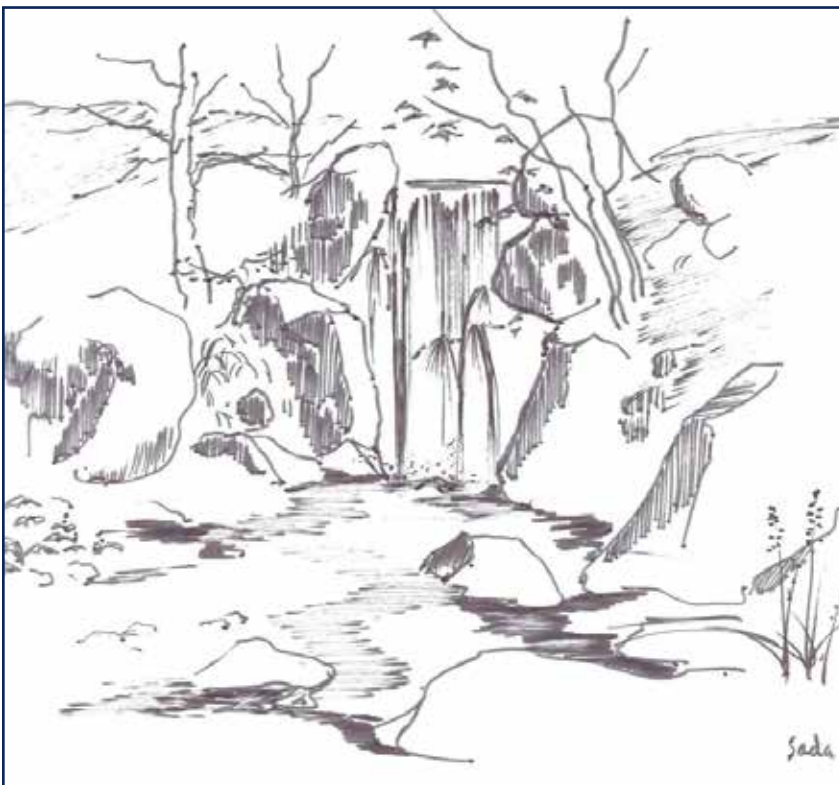
on this article. I feverishly wrote pages of notes and quotes that I could not work into it, or did not have the room for. Any mistakes on places, times and dates are mine.

A few I wanted to share with you follow...

"In Japan, generally the master (head gardener/designer) has a problem explaining the 'why' of a garden design...why you place a rock there, or a plant here. The 'whys' should come later, after the effort of the physical."

Or this one which Sada was told to directly, "You must turn off your brain switch; the crafter makes things with his hands".

"In traditional Japan, even a question from a novice is taboo. What you learn first, you learn with your body, in the physical, not the mental. Your body must learn first, then your mind".





A Rose by Another Name

Raspberries, a relative of the rose, taste just as sweet.

by Judy Alleruzzo

The first ripe raspberries are summer rewards for just a little bit of your time and garden space. Red raspberries are tasty relatives of the rose family. The flowers look like mini wild roses and of course they both have thorns.

Raspberries are known to have been eaten by prehistoric people. Archeological evidence of raspberries have been found in Paleolithic caves in Eastern Asia. In 4th century A.D. there is documentation by Pallidius, a Greek medical writer, that raspberries were a cultivated crop. Popularity of these delicious berries grew down through the centuries. In the 13th century, Edward I, King of England is credited with the idea for raspberries to be widely grown as a cultivated crop throughout the country. He was

a wise king plus he must have loved raspberry jam!

Historians think that travellers taking the route from Asia over the Bering Strait land bridge carried raspberries to North America. In the New World, more kinds of raspberries developed as they crossed with native black raspberries.

Other historical references and statistics of raspberries

- George Washington grew them at his home in Mt. Vernon
- During the time of the Civil War there were about 40 raspberry cultivars
- 2013 Top 2 Red Raspberry producers in U.S.:

Washington - 68 Million pounds*

Oregon - 8.8 Million pounds*

(*sources: Washington Red Raspberry Commission; OregonBusiness.com.)

Isn't it great when foods you love are really good for you? Raspberries are high in Vitamin C, Iron and Folic acid which helps your all around health. They also help your body fight cancer and heart disease. Good tips to remember the next time you drive by a farmers market or raspberry U-Pick farm.

Planting Raspberries

- Choose a sunny site
- Add compost to increase soil texture and drainage
- Add transplant fertilizer
- For new raspberry canes, water about 1 inch of water a week.



- Choose either of these planting systems for your raspberry patch

"Hedgerow System"

Plant red raspberry canes about 2 feet apart in rows about 8 feet apart.

Let the clusters of canes grow to about 1 foot along the row.

Don't let the rows get too wide or the canes can become too difficult to weed or prune.

"Hill System"

Space plants about 2.5 feet apart with 8 feet between rows.

This system contains a cluster of canes reaching 12 to 18 inches across.

Make sure you remove all suckers between the "Hills" or rows.

Use 2 sets of wires in a trellis system.

Attach 1 set of wires on either side at top of sturdy posts

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'Meeker'

Developed by Washington State University in 1967

Sweet, large red berries, ripen mid June through mid July

Produce fruit on the 2nd year canes called Floricanes

In fall, cut back canes that have fruited this year

'Willamette'

Developed at OSU in the late 1940s

Med-small red berries, ripen mid June through mid July

Produce fruit on the 2nd year canes called Floricanes

In fall, cut back canes that have fruited this year

'Heritage'

Ever bearing red raspberry

Small crop ripens in mid June through mid July on bottom sections of the previous year's canes

Cut back these canes after harvest

Larger crop from August to frost from top part of this year's canes

After harvest, the cane tips will die back but leave canes for next year's 1st crop

'Fallgold'

Golden colored raspberry

Small crop ripens in mid June through mid July on bottom sections of the previous year's canes

Cut back these canes after harvest

Larger crop from August to frost from top part of this year's canes

After harvest, the cane tips will die back but leave canes for next years 1st crop



Check out a Garden Time Archive Segment with William and Joelle Hildner from Smith Berry Barn

They demonstrate a simple Raspberry Jam recipe.

www.gardentime.tv

Garden Time Episode 252
July 28, 2012

Attach 2nd set of wires about knee high

Thread canes between the wires.

All Raspberry plants are self fruitful so you do not need two varieties to produce delicious berries.

Care of Established Raspberry Canes

- Add 1/3 rate of fertilizer about March, late May and end of July
- Make sure they get about 1 to 1.5 inches of water a week from mid June to late summer.

I know this all seems way too involved for just a few pints, or buckets of raspberries. But aren't sweet, fresh, just picked raspberries worth a little trouble?

You'll be glad you planted them.



Black raspberry



Red raspberry

OSU Bulletin

<http://extension.oregonstate.edu/gardening>

Growing Raspberries in your Home Garden EC1306

Dr. Bernadine Strik

U-Pick/We Pick

Check their websites for availability of ripe raspberries!

Smith Berry Barn

Hillsboro, Oregon

www.smithberrybarn.com

Lee Farms

Tualatin, Oregon

www.leefarmsoregon.com

Bauman Farm and Garden

Gervais, Oregon

www.baumanfarms.com

Garden Time's Plant Picks are from Little Prince. Your's should be, too.



HARDY AGAVE
'Blue Haze'



GERANIUM
cantabrigiense 'Biokovo'

Click "Plant of the Week" on the Garden Time website for more information.



LITTLE PRINCE

You'll find Little Prince plants
at garden centers everywhere.

Check our website for one near you.
www.LittlePrinceOfOregonNursery.com

Say No to Cracks

We've all got it: concrete that needs repairing. Here's how you can do it yourself.

By David Musial

Step on crack, break your mother's back...

As a child, this rhyme played in my head as I walked down the sidewalk avoiding the cracks. Although growing up there may have been a time or two that I intentionally stepped on those cracks, as an older and more safety conscious person, I now repair those cracks. Keeping your mom's back safe from someone stepping on cracks is something that you can do too.

Making concrete repairs can be simple with a few tips, the right tools and materials, and safety equipment. The first step is to identify the type of repair required and determine if the job is

Concrete step repair using two trowels.

within your level of skill or best left to a professional. After that, there are a few basic steps to follow for each type of repair to be successful.

To find out what type of concrete repair jobs a homeowner will encounter, I contacted Amber Kozlowsky, at Parr Lumber in Albany. Amber indicated that the two most common concrete repairs will be either to flat surfaces or corners and edges. The flat areas would include cracks and holes to driveways, sidewalks, patios and foundations. Corner and edge repair areas are likely to be required on steps and curbs where chipping and erosion can occur.

Once a crack or hole in your concrete is identified, it is necessary to determine if a professional should be called. When dealing with the foundation, any crack that goes through the foundation should be handled by a professional. Small hair-line cracks should not be a problem. Large holes should be seen by a professional and if the damage is caused by tree roots, the roots will need to be addressed before the concrete can be re-

paired. Sidewalk repairs are often regulated by the local municipality. A call to the building department is advised before working on public sidewalks. Lastly, if in doubt, call a local professional. They will be more than happy to discuss the scope of your project.

So let's get started.

Flat Repairs

Tools and Safety Equipment:

Small Broom

Wire Brush

Putty Knife and/or Trowel

Safety Glasses

Gloves

Dust Mask

Materials:

Concrete Fast Patch (such as Ba-

A concrete trowel is the best tool for the job, but a large sturdy putty knife can be used for small jobs.

Basalite Fast Patch is just one brand that offers an easy to mix and use concrete crack repair product.



PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.JONEAKES.COM



PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.SPEEDCRETE.CO.UK



Fine cracks can be filled in with a squeezeable concrete filler.



Use a squeezeable crack filler for small cracks.

salite Fast Patch)

To get started, you will need to don your safety gear and be sure that the area to be patched is free of grease or oil. Next, the crack needs to have all dirt and debris removed. This is accomplished by first using a wire brush to knock off loose concrete and then swept out with a broom. The wire brushing will also roughen up the surface to improve bonding when patching. Lastly, use water to clean the crack. The concrete should be wet when patching, but no standing water.

Mix the concrete patch according to the label's directions and only mix what you will need for the job. With your trowel or putty knife, fill the crack completely, wiping away any excess creating a smooth surface. Work quickly, as most fast patch will set up in about fifteen minutes. When done, use your broom to give a broom finish if desired. Follow tool clean-up and curing instructions per manufacturer's directions.

This type of patch is for cracks no more than 1-2" deep. Cracks that are deeper will require some type of reinforcement, such as sand, gravel or a mesh backing. Refer to the product's label for specifics. For cracks that are between 1/8" to 1/4", there are squeezeable caulking products available, such as Basalite Crack Repair.

Corner and Edge Repair

Tools and Safety Equipment:

- Small Broom
- Wire Brush
- Trowel (2)
- Safety Glasses
- Gloves
- Dust Mask

Materials:

Concrete Fast Patch (such as Basalite Fast Patch)

Once again, you will need to don your safety gear and be sure that the area to be repaired is free of grease or oil. Next, the area needs to have all loose material removed. This is accomplished by first using a wire brush to knock off loose concrete and then swept out with a broom. The wire brushing will also roughen up the surface to improve bonding when patching. Lastly, use water to clean the surface. The concrete should be wet when patching, but there should not be standing water.

Mix the concrete patch according to the label's directions and only mix what you will need for the job. Since you will have a vertical and horizontal surface, you will use two trowels. One creates a wall to define where the patch is to stop and the other trowel applies the patch (see photo). Use caution when sliding the trowel

off to avoid removing the concrete at the same time. If the repair requires both a vertical and horizontal repair; such as the top and face of a step, follow the steps for the first surface and then reverse the set-up for the other surface. With a corner repair, you will have three surfaces. Work quickly, as most fast patch will set up in about fifteen minutes. When done, use your broom to give a broom finish if desired. Follow tool clean-up and curing instructions per manufacturer's directions.

Although you could use a bag of concrete mix for these concrete repairs, what is nice about the products designed specifically for patching is that they are available in a smaller size bag and it sets up quickly so forms are not required to keep the concrete in place. For supplies and additional advice, you can visit Parr Lumber or your local hardware store.

Now that we have the cracks repaired, it's time to repair the lines...step on a line, break your mother's spine. Ouch! Hope Mom's got a strong back.

Basalite Crack Repair



WTDITG

OK, July is officially summer... even if it is cool and rainy on some days. Be sure to take time to enjoy your yard. You've been working hard since January. Now, relax and soak in the beauty of a space you can call your own. Invite a few friends over, too, and let them see what a great job you've done!

PLANNING



- Plan to take time to have fun out in the garden now that most of the harder work is done! Maybe have a garden party to help celebrate all you were able to get done this spring. In other words, enjoy your garden and take time to relax out in it.

- If the first flower baskets were a flop because you went away for a few days and no one watered them, there are always more. So if for some rea-

son the ones you got earlier are not looking too great, give them a haircut, let them re-grow and in the meantime hang up some new fresh color just in time for the BBQs!



gardening successes.

- Time for a little Garden Journal writing? Take the time to sit out in your garden and make lots of notes now, so next year you'll be ready for even more

PLANTING

- Annual flowers are still plentiful this time of year, so you can pop in as much color as you'd like for the summertime display.



Add planters to decks and patios for that lush saturation of color you can get from annual flowers. Always

use a good quality potting soil in planters.

- Summer and fall blooming perennials are always available

this time of year and great to add some super color punch to the garden. We recommend you plant perennials in groups of 3-5 or more instead of onesie-twosies.

- Planting landscape trees and shrubs now is OK. It may be a bit harder to keep the young plants watered as often as they need this time of year but be assured that most of the time you can plant year-round. The rules are if you can dig the soil (not frozen) you can plant. Work in organic compost to the planting area and then make sure you mulch the

plants with compost or bark to help conserve precious moisture at the root zone.



- Look for blueberries and other fruit bearing plants to plant. As tasty as blueberries

are its hard to grasp they are so good for us too. Wouldn't it be fun to have a red, white and blue dessert with your own fresh strawberries, whipped cream and blueberries on the 4th of July?

TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

- Check on your watering... are you watering deep enough or just getting the top of the soil damp? Dig down a little into the soil and make sure the water is getting down into the root zone. Morning

is the best time to water, not evening. If you have to water in the evening, just water the soil leaving the foliage dry overnight to reduce possibility of diseases.

What To Do In The Garden

JULY

- Are you watering too often? Plants roots need to come up for air, unless it's a water lily!



You should water deeply when you water and then let the top of the soil dry out a bit.

- Give your hanging baskets a mid-season haircut, cutting half of the long growth off, and shaving off the top 3-5" of growth. Keep the hanging baskets going strong with regular feeding. Apply fertilizer every other watering.

- Do a weed patrol around the landscape and vegetable garden. Taking care to get them while

they are small is a much easier task. Do a light hoeing, frequently and if possible just before a sunny day. The exposure to the sun kills small weed seedlings quickly.

- Stake the taller perennials like delphinium and hollyhock and check the tomato plants. Staking allows for better air circulation and less chance of disease.



- If you're growing asparagus and rhubarb get any weeding in the beds done this month, then apply an organic fertilizer. Then apply fresh topdressing of mulch.

- Keep a lookout for notched leaves on rhododendrons, azaleas and other broadleaf evergreen shrubs which is evidence of Root Weevils feeding on the plants leaves. The adult does the visible damage but their grubs are much more lethal,. You could use a chemical spray labeled for root weevils or get the organic answer, Beneficial Nematodes.

- Spider mite infestations favor dryer warm weather so it's time to start looking for the telltale signs: Dusty looking plants with grey dull looking leaves. The spider mites like dry, dusty, undisturbed plants. Often just keeping the plants cleaner with garden hose water wash downs will do the trick.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

- Don't overhead water tomatoes! (or potatoes) Unfortunately, we have a problem disease here in the northwest and it affects tomatoes and potatoes severely; the dreaded late blight. The disease development is favored by cool, rainy weather and may be more severe under sprinkler irrigation. Avoid overhead watering and stake the plants up to allow good air circulation. Remember to rotate crops around so that tomatoes or potatoes are not in the same spot in the garden for at least three years. Pick off any affected leaves and spray plants with an approved fungicide if desired.



- There are plenty of herb starts and seeds available this time of year. Sowing more seed for basil and cilantro for instance, will keep crops coming on for fresh picking all summer.

- Mound the soil up around potatoes plants. Snitch a few of the young 'new' potatoes from the bed to cook up while you're there.

- Time to do some mid-season planting by seed for late season harvest. This is a great time to plant by seed; beets, bush beans, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cilantro, collards, broccoli, collards, fava beans, lettuce, kale, parsnips, peas, radishes, rutabaga, spinach and turnips. These crops will grow and produce good crops well into fall & winter!

- Check on the garlic crop - it's harvest time! Garlic is best planted in the fall and then harvested the following summer, in July. If you had planted your crop last fall then this month you should stop watering the garlic bed. Your signal will be that the leaves start to die back. Time to stop watering and when the leaves are dead a 3rd to 1/2 way down then harvest time is here.



- Cover the blueberry bushes with netting. Birds will let you know when they are ripe as you'll see them raiding the patch! This year get a head start on the marauders by getting the netting set up before the fruit is ripe. Yum!



PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town

Fireworks Display

Thursday July 3, 2014 • 10:00pm
The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

Join us on July 3rd for Silverton Day, live music and a beautiful fireworks display, planned by the Oregon Garden Foundation and presented by Roth's Fresh Markets. The fireworks display will begin around 10pm. The fireworks will be best viewed from within The Oregon Garden, namely the Silverton Market Garden and Axis Garden, and views from outside areas will be obstructed. For our ADA guests, we suggest parking at the Visitor Center and viewing the fireworks from the Bosque. Live Music 6:00pm-8:00pm: Dead Wood Standing of Silverton, playing loud, fast Americana with a slight garage rock/punk vibe. 8:00pm-10:00pm: JSwift Band of Salem, playing a mix of modern country with alternative and classic rock influences.

What to Do in the July Veggie Garden

Saturday, July 5, 2014 11:00am-12:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

Join Donna and Robyn of Your Backyard Farmer, for a great refresher on what to do in the veggie garden for the month of July. They will cover topics such as seeding and planting seasonal crops, what to harvest, methods of planting, combating weeds, and organic techniques for dealing with various undesirable pests that might be invading your garden.

Kids Club: Blueberries or Bust!

Saturday, July 5, 2014 • 11:00am(W)
Saturday, July 12, 2014 • 11:00am(S)
Saturday, July 19, 2014 • 11:00am(G)

Al's Garden Center, Woodburn, Sherwood, Gresham, OR

Blueberries are easy to grow and make a delicious summertime snack! Learn how to grow blueberry plants and take one home. We will also talk about how important bees are in pollinating all of our fruit trees and berries. Cost: \$5.00 per child. Registration: Registration is required. Register online at www.als-gardencenters.com or call the store you'd like to attend: Woodburn 503-981-1245, Sherwood 503-726-1162, or Gresham 503-491-0771.

Portland Nursery Gardens Summer Tour

Sunday, July 6, 2014 • 11:00am
Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR

Portland Nursery's garden caretakers and designers Who doesn't love a good garden tour? We always get questions about the plants in our plantings around the parking lot and within the nursery, and unfortunately sometimes our identifying tags just walk away. This will be the first of our seasonal tours of the gardens with Sandra, doyenne of dirt and an exemplar of our passion for plants. Watch our gardens develop with time and the seasons as we try out

continued next column

new plants and feature old favorites. Please wear weather-appropriate clothing! Meet at 11 AM in Greenhouse 1.

Attracting Pollinators to the Garden

Sunday, July 6, 2014 • 11:00am-12:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

Brenda Lee Calvert joins us to talk about what home gardeners can do to help support a diverse community of pollinators to their yards. She'll suggest plants that provide abundant nectar, pollen, and larvae food. She'll also talk about gardening techniques that support pollinator health and describe some of the fascinating and helpful pollinators that you, too, can admire in your garden.

Hops and More: The Brewer's Garden

Sunday, July 6, 2014 • 1:00pm (rescheduled)
Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR

Everyone knows that hops are a big part of the recipe for beer, contributing bittering and antibacterial action to delicate floral aromas -- and a wide range of hop cultivars have been developed for use in different styles. But hops are far from being the only botanical used in beer. From historical unhopped recipes for gruits and heather beers, to fresh spruce-tip beers and modern experiments with herbal and fruit additions, brewer Trevor Bass will give a rundown of some of the exciting beer styles homebrewers might make using plants from their own backyards.

Caneberry Field Day

Wednesday July 9, 2014 • 1:00pm-5:00pm
North Willamette Research and Extension Ctr., Aurora, OR
15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002
Ph: 503-678-1264

Art in the Garden Opening Reception

Friday, July 11, 2014 • 7:00pm-10:00pm
The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

To kick off Art in the Garden, we will have an opening reception July 11, 2014 from 7pm-10pm. Guests will enter through the Visitor Center between 7pm and 8pm. This ticketed event includes live music, heavy hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting in the Sensory Garden.

Garden to Table: Summer and Your Slow Cooker

Saturday, July 12, 2014 • 10:30am
Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR

What to Do in the Garden in July & August

Saturday, July 12, 2014 11:00am
Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Things are heating up! There's a long "to do" list in July and August -- planting, pruning, fertilizing, dividing, mulching, watering and harvesting... oh my! We'll do our best to

continued next page



help you stay on top of it all without getting overwhelmed. Bring pictures and samples for our staff to look at during the Q & A portion. Free.

Jumpstart Your Fall and Winter Veggies

Saturday, July 12, 2014 • 1:00pm

Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Does it seem too early to be thinking about fall and winter garden crops now, in the middle of summer? Well the autumnal equinox is just around the corner, so it's actually the perfect time to start planning the healthy veggies you'd like to be feasting on in the cold of winter. We'll discuss seed varieties that are especially well-suited for overwintering and late-season planting. This is also a good opportunity to bring photos to share with and inspire other participants. Free.

Blueberry Field Day

Wednesday July 16, 2014 • 1:00pm-5:00pm

North Willamette Research and Extension Ctr., Aurora, OR

15210 NE Miley Road, Aurora, OR 97002

Ph: 503-678-1264

Blueberry Tasting & Sale

Saturday, July 19, 2014 • 10:00am-2:00pm

Al's Garden Center, Woodburn, Sherwood, Gresham, OR

July is the peak of the blueberry harvest and National Blueberry Month. Celebrate by joining us at Al's Garden Centers for a Blueberry Tasting and Sale. Come to Al's and sample fresh, locally grown blueberries from Thompson Farms. Enjoy the benefits of blueberries as you taste each delicious, juicy variety. From sweet to spicy, find your favorite blueberries and purchase some to take home. Go ahead, do something good for yourself, enjoy the benefits of blueberries. Cost: Free. Registration is not required.

Garden to Table: Fermentation Day-Pickling, Bread Making, Yogurt and Kombucha

Saturday, July 19, 2014 • 10:30am

Farmington Gardens, Beaverton, OR

with Ari Eshraghi.

Summertime Bonsai Maintenance

Saturday, July 19, 2014 11:00am

Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Join us for a seminar to discuss the importance of summertime aintenance for your bonsai. Tsugawa staff will share their knowledge and advice for keeping your bonsai in top shape during summer and demonstrate for you just what that means. Free.

Seminar: Blueberry Basics

Saturday, July 19, 2014 • 1:00pm

Al's Garden Center, Woodburn, Sherwood, Gresham, OR

continued next column

Learn how to grow sweet, juicy blueberries in your garden. We'll teach you about the different types, how to plant, fertilize, water, and prune so you can enjoy berries fresh from the bush! Our tips will help you give them a good start in your garden and keep them healthy. Cost: Seminar is free and open to the public. Registration: Registration is not required. Speaker: Al's Experts.

Orchid Society Sale & Pot Up

Saturday, July 26, 2014 • 10:00am-4:00pm

Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR

Creating Cozy Cottage Gardens

Saturday, July 26, 2014 • 1:00pm

Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR

Do you dream of multicolored hollyhocks and roses, lavender, pinks, thyme and clematis massing casually in the dooryard, fluttering with butterflies, and arching over the garden gate? Perhaps your house (or garden) style just begs for the English country treatment. Corina will talk about the history and traditional plant and design vocabulary of cottage gardens, make some recommendations for our area, and share tips on how to achieve the informal and full look of a classic cottage garden.

Small Space Gardening with Paul Taylor, OCNP

Sunday, July 27, 2014 • 1:00pm-2:00pm

Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

You CAN get a beautiful landscape with seasonal interest in a small space! Go home with ideas on how to select and arrange plants for small gardens from the inspiring Paul Taylor. Paul Taylor is an award winning designer of elegant and straight forward landscapes. He'll draw on his experience to help you analyze your site to get the most enjoyment out of it – no matter the size of the space!

Getting Started with Mushroom Cultivation

Sunday, July 27, 2014 • 1:00pm

Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR

Curious about mushrooms and how to grow them? Ryan will cover introductory mushroom cultivation topics including growing mushrooms on logs and in the ground, and the importance of saprophytic and mycorrhizal fungi in the garden. Ryan has been studying, hunting and cultivating mushrooms for the last decade in the PNW and is enthusiastic about sharing what he knows.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar
www.gardentime.tv/events.htm

"Together, We Create the Message"

-Jeff Gustin, President

Cutting back on your advertising budget during a recession may seem like an effective cost-saving strategy, but the reality is far different. Studies show that businesses that reduce their advertising fall behind their competitors who maintain or increase their budgets, and take longer to recover when the economy rebounds.

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Garden Time