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#### Yes, You May

It is time! May is the time to turn it loose. The spring came really early this year and at times it seemed like summer had arrived. We kept telling people to enjoy the weather and to not get too excited about planting your garden too early. temperature was warm but the soil temperature was freezing. In fact, on a day that was in the 70's we saw a thermometer that showed the soil temperature at 45 degrees. That is way too cold to plant anything. Any plant or seed you put in the ground at that temperature will just sit there until the soil warms up. Now, as we enter May the frost date is pretty much past for lots of Oregonians. In Portland the average last frost date is the 26th of April, but that doesn't mean you can head out safely in all of Oregon. Salem has a date closer to the 20th of May, eastern Oregon and parts of the Cascades have dates in June. Still when we hit May it is pretty safe to start moving some of your plants outside, just keep an eye on the forecast. That being said, we are now in the time for applying your lawn and garden sprays as well. When the temps start to rise your sprays and chemicals, either organic or synthetic, become more effective. Just remember to read the labels before application and use all safety precautions. We have been looking forward to this time of year, so let's get out there and start gardening!

May now has something else that you can look forward to, Subaru Garden Dayz at Capitol Subaru in Salem. Last year we had our first event at the Subaru dealership on the Parkway in Salem in June. This year we are moving things up so you can get some great plants and garden art before the spring is over. Join us on May 16th from 11 to 3 for a great day full of fun and freebies! Capitol Subaru wants everyone to have a good time and leave with something too. If you come by you can get a packet of seeds to grow your own parsley or chives. There will also be 3 packs of flowers, while supplies last, fand free hotdogs, sodard and seeds to grow your own parsley or chives. and smoothies. We will also be drawing for \$25 Portland Nursery gift cards every half hour. Of course, they will have the newest Subarus there for you to test drive. We love our Garden Time Outback, it's a great car. Have you seen it? It has a big flower on the side of it. Let's see if you can find it on our website. Just go to www.GardenTime.tv and click on the Subaru and you can enter your guess on the location of the Subaru. Each month we give away a \$25 gift card to either Al's Garden Center or Portland Nursery. Click and give us your best guess, we have a new location each month.

May is also the start of the peony season. We have the benefit of having one of the best growers of peonies right here in Oregon at Adelman's Peonies. Jim and Carol Adelman are not only great growers, they are great people as well. You get a chance to meet them as our horties of the month in this issue. Peonies may work well in your garden, but they don't make the best hanging basket material. To get you started on your hanging basket this season, Therese walks you through the steps of planting your own hanging basket. Also, William takes us on a tour of one of the signature gardens at McMenamins, Edgefield. We get to learn about the gardens and get a little history lesson as well. I was surprised how large the gardens actually were! Finally, I step up to do a little writing as well. Spring is the time for cleaning and I get to share some tips about cleaning your carpets. Nothing like bare feet in the grass and on a clean carpet!

#### **Enjoy the Spring and Happy Gardening!** Jeff Gustin, Publisher

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#### In this issue...



















Want a sure way to put a smile on your face this spring? Place a hanging basket of colorful annuals right outside your window and soak in the beauty every time you glance outside! Spring is in full bloom

and garden centers are full of color right now. It is a perfect time to let your creative juices flow and pick out that perfect

combination of plants that will take you to your 'happy' place. With just a few simple tips, you can design a hanging









basket that will provide lasting color all summer long.

**Container** There are many different container choices when it comes to hanging baskets. Keep in mind the larger the hanging basket the less often it will need water. Material matters as well... peat pots dry out faster than wood or plastic pots.

**Soil** Always use a good quality potting soil. Never use soil from the garden. It doesn't drain well, it gets heavy and it may contain diseases or insect pests. Some potting soils are made specifically for containers like Black Gold's® Waterhold Cocoblend potting soil. Like

the name says, it's formulated to hold water in the soil and release it slowly to the plants. A good quality potting soil may also already contain fertilizer to get your plants off to a good start. More about fertilizer later...

**Plant Choices** Mounding or trailing plants are best for hanging baskets. Choices for shade may include fuschias, trailing begonias, sweet potato vine, lobelia and even bacopa. Plants for sun include several trailing and mounding varieties of petunias such as Wave or Supertunias, Calibrchoa, trailing geraniums, Verbena, Bidens, Bacopa, scaevola and the list goes on.

**Spacing** I like to pack plants fairly tightly so









the basket looks full to begin with. It won't take long for the plants to fill in but you don't want to leave so much space between plants that your basket will look empty for weeks.

Fertilizer-If your potting soil already contains fertilizer, skip this step. If it doesn't, add about a tablespoon of slow release fertilizer to the pot at

planting. Follow it up with a balanced water soluble fertilizer every two weeks during the growing season. I know this seems like a lot of fertilizing, but your baskets will be lush all season long with adequate fertilization. Check the fertilizer label for application rates.

Water Water is critical when it comes to all containers, especially hanging baskets. Due

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to the small reservoir for soil, hanging baskets dry out rapidly. They should be watered until the water flows out the bottom of the container. In hot windy climates you may have to water twice a day. In general, insert your index finger into the pot and if it is dry down to the first knuckle, it's time to water. The hotter the temperature, the more often you should water. Some of your plants might let you know they are thirsty by wilting but it's best not to let them get to that point. With proper soil and drainage in your hanging container, it's pretty hard to overwater a hanging basket.

Location Site your hanging baskets where you will see them daily. After all, that's why we surround ourselves with natural beauty! Be sure you choose plants for the site. Under a large eave, use shade-loving plants. On the back deck in full sun, use sun loving plants.

If you want instant color without the work, check out your local independent garden center for a huge selection of hanging baskets. Margie's Farm and Garden (www.









margiesfarmandgarden. com), French Prairie Gardens (www.frenchprairiegardens. com), Bauman Farms (www. baumanfarms.com) and Al's Garden Centers (www.alsgardencenter.com) all offer many combinations for both sunny and shady areas. Or you can tap in to your creative side use these simple tips and try your hand at designing the perfect hanging basket for your deck or entrance.





Something happened in the 1970s.

The brothers McMenamins, Mike and Brian, who grew up in northeast Portland, Oregon, trace the beginning of McMenamins to the 1974 opening of Produce Row Café.

A lot has happened since then...I mean a lot!

Most travelers to Oregon and Washington are hard pressed not to have heard of, and often visited one of the dozens of McMenamins currently gracing the Pacific Northwest.

From their own website comes this revealing statement;

"What We Do"

Our goal is to keep the past in the present, to celebrate and connect us all with the people and events that have helped define each McMenamins property. To that end, we research, interview and compile materials to identify and commemorate our properties and their surroundings."

The proof of that statement is that many of the locations are

#### **McMenamins**

65 brewpubs, breweries, music venues, historic hotels, and theater pubs in Oregon and Washington

www.mcmenamins.com

renovated historical properties; as of June 2004, nine are on the National Register of Historic Places:

A former elementary school (Kennedy School);

A movie theater built by Universal Studios (Bagdad Theatre);

A building once used by the Church of Sweden as a Swedish Evangelical Mission (Mission Theatre & Pub);

The site of a former general store once owned by Oregon's first state treasurer (Boon's Treasury);

A saloon once used by Polish immigrants to plan what became the west coast's first Polish Cath-



olic Church (White Eagle Saloon);

A saloon and former brothel in downtown Centralia, Washington (Olympic Club Hotel);

A pioneer homestead with an octagonal barn (Cornelius Pass Roadhouse);

A former Multnomah County poor farm (Edgefield);

A ballroom with a floating floor (The Crystal Ballroom);

A saloon in Olympia, Washington called Spar Café and Bar, first opened in 1935.

But I would like to concentrate on one of my favorite, Edgefield, in Troutdale, Oregon.

One of the many things I like about this place, ok, the main reason I like this place, is the amazing gardens. Some 74 acres are owned there and it seems like some kind of plant is being grown on each of them.

For me, well, I get lost in these gardens. The designers for the company and the staff and crew are meticulous about everything in the layout of each area.

They love the choices of plants they place in the different spaces. They maintain them. They protect them. In fact, they feel like gardens I would own. Perhaps that is what I and countless other quests





feel. Welcomed, comforted, safe, happy...We are at home.

Whether you stroll through the edible areas or choose to play a round of golf. Perhaps you want to take a stroll through the grounds around the many different building, surveying the amazing variety of nature which seems to be at every turn.

Regardless of the path, they all seem to lead to somewhere better. And that is what a great garden should do.

It was not that long ago that we did a story about the produce they now grow for the restaurants which are part of Edgefield. I myself have been to countless events here, weddings, company Christmas parties, and just evenings spent strolling the gardens with friends and a pint of fresh ale in hand.

With no phones or televisions in the rooms, and only limited wifi access, you really do feel like you have stepped back in time to a gentler and calmer era.

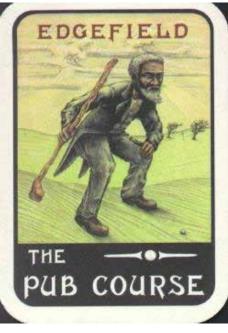
The whimsical art painted on the walls, the food, beer and wine and the gardens, might seem like enough to draw anyone to this place.

But then you also get to add music! They have a complete listing of the music available on their website at www.mcmenamins. com/Edgefield.

And have I mentioned the golf course?

And what about Ruby Ale? The first ale to be approved to use fruit in. Raspberries never tasted so delicious!

Even their website draws you in. While researching this article I found myself getting lost in count-



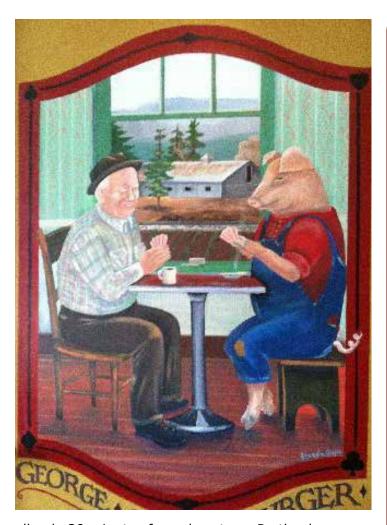
less pages of information.

History, upcoming events, art...it just seemed to never end.

And why should it? This company has endeared themselves to the Pacific Northwest by taking our Historic buildings, refreshing them, and making them a part of our everyday lives once again.

So take a step back in time and visit Edgefield. Spend the night, or the weekend. They have everything you could want, including the beautiful Ruby Spa, and it is





all only 20 minutes from downtown Portland.

But once you get there, you will think you have travelled decades into the past, and you will be a better, more relaxed person when you come back to the real, current world.



# Where Will a **Capitol Subaru** Take You?



#### **Local Events** May 2015

**Bloom Season** May 8-31, 2015 Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

We'll be celebrating our 90th year! Come join the celebration! Open Daily: Cut Flowers and Gift Shop. Schreiner's Cut Flower Show: Cut flowers are available for \$7.50 per dozen.

www.schreinersgardens.com

#### Saturday-Sunday, May 16-17, 2015 Adelman Peony Gardens, Salem, OR

Drive your antique, classic, hot rod, or unique car to see the peonies! Peony season runs May 2nd through June 14th.

peonyparadise.com

#### Must See Oregon Saturday, May 16, 2015 • 10:00am-4:00pm The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

Visit with more than 40 Oregon destinations and attractions in the Grand Hall. On this day, admission to The Oregon Garden also includes admission to Must See Oregon. Special Speakers, Authors and Guests: KGW reporter and author Grant McOmie; author Steve Arndt. For a full list of activities, speakers and more, visit our website.

www.mustseeor.com



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This month's 'Go To Have It' is a glorious blue flowering plant, botanically named, Iochroma australe. In my life as a gardener, I have found that so many of the plants I adore almost always have a story.

This one does indeed.

Back around 1998 I was working seasonally at Portland Nursery on Stark Street, while I attended Portland State studying Opera. One day, I noticed a charming small blue trumpet shaped flower on a 4" plant. The name on it was Datura, which of course was once the name of all Angel Trumpets. A few years back, that Botanical name was divided into Datura and Brugmansia. But I am getting ahead of my story.

I instantly fell in love with this miniature Datura, bought one,

and took it home to plant it in my garden. I could not find much information on it, as in the Datura's family, no blue Angel Trumpets existed; At least not any that we who worked at the store knew of.

I also fully expected it to be an annual, which is how it was sold. To my great surprise, it came back...year after year after year.

Eventually, it grew to around seven feet tall. Each late spring and through the summer, this shrub would be covered in miniature blue Angel Trumpets.

I had searched each year for its full botanical name with no avail. I knew it could not be a Datura as that family did not have any blue flowers in it.

Time passed and I just told

people I did not know what it was for sure, but it had been purchased with the name Datura on it.

And then, about five years ago, a fellow plantsman saw a picture I had posted of it in full bloom. He raised Daturas and said he thought it was actually a cousin of that family, Iochroma. Sure enough, upon further inspection, that is what it was. It has also gone by the names Acnistus australis and Dunalia australis.

What still amazes me about it is that after almost 20 years, it still thrives in my gardens. My little 4" plant now stands over eight feet tall. I have divided it several times to give to friends.

My personal experience with it in our area is that it is not evergreen at all. Each year, it drops its leaves and is quite honestly nothing to admire. Just branches with no special color or texture.

I have always given it mid-to-late afternoon shade, with full sun from morning until that time.

It has never required any special soil or water other then what I do for all of my plants. And although I would suspect, because it is a cousin of the Brugmansia family and a heavy bloomer, it might enjoy extra fertilization for its stunning blooming show each year, I have never given it such rich treatment.

I can tell you that Humming-

birds love it, and it is one of those plants which always attract people's attention when in bloom.

Now, some nurseries do carry Iochromas, often in shades of purple and deep reds. And, I have heard stories of how some of these have survived our winters. But if you ever see this specific plant, you will know it by its sky blue flowers and woody stems.

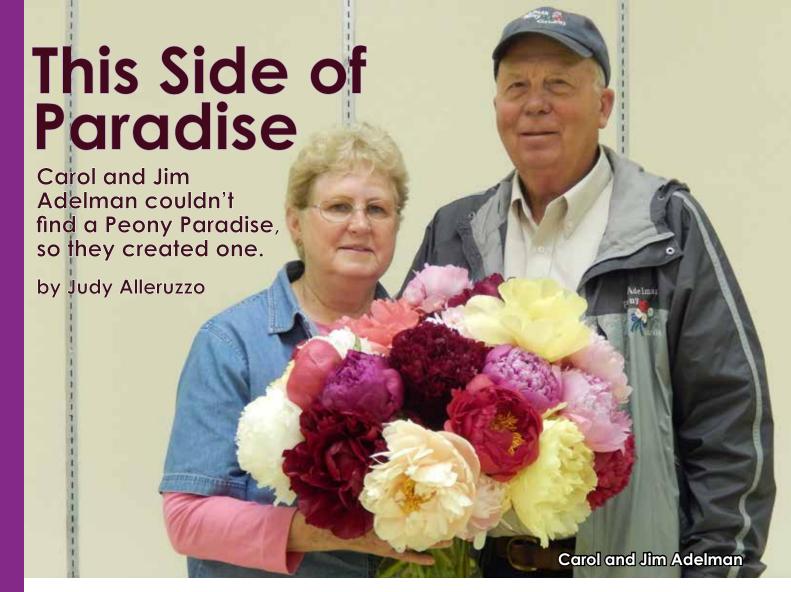
It should be said that because of the intense relationship to the Brugmansia family, I suspect that all parts of this plant are toxic.

If you choose to keep it in a pot, you should protect it more than if it is in the ground in those harsh winters which we get every so often.

A native to Argentina, Iochroma australe may take some effort to find, but it will certainly be well worth it! That's what makes it our plant pick this month.







In China and Japan, peonies are revered as "The King of Flowers". They symbolize good fortune and friendship. At one time these lovely flowers were only available to the Emperor or the elite class of citizens. LUCKILY, in the Pacific Northwest, we can purchase peonies from local growers Carol and Jim Adelman of Adelman Peony Gardens right in Salem, Oregon!

Carol and Jim Adelman have become premier peony growers and breeders in a short time. In their early years of raising 5 children, they farmed and grew crops like peppermint, hazelnuts, peaches and seed for grass. For 25 of those years, they mainly grew apples on their 22 acres of farmland in the rural area of Salem. They also did custom harvesting of tree fruits for other growers.

In 1993, Carol and Jim decided

to take another path in their Agricultural expertise. They decided to grow and sell peony plants and cut flowers. They wanted to have a farm where peony lovers could walk down grass pathways and enjoy row after row of their favorite flowers.

They wanted to create a destination "Peony Paradise" and even have that phrase as their web address. The statistics at Adelman's today are a total of over 450 varieties of all types of peonies;

300 Herbaceous Peonies (Old Fashion Peonies)

56 Itoh (Intersectional) Peonies (Hybrid between Herbaceous Peonies and Tree Peonies)

98 Tree Peonies that are new varieties (Peonies that have woody stems) The Adelman's are increasing the stock on these peo-

nies before selling them at their farm.

Carol and Jim are surrounded by family to help run this beautiful business.

They want to pass on all their vast knowledge of growing peonies to these next 2 generations. During the early years, Carol and Jim would harvest peony flowers and haul them by the carload to the airport to ship to awaiting florists and flower markets. In 2008, their son Steve, came back to work with his Mom and Dad. He took on the cut flower side of the business and as his Mom says, "he built it quickly and efficiently". Adelman's now ships peony cut flowers all across the country by the pallet load about 2 to 3 times a week. Steve also manages the wholesale peony plant divisions. His daughter, Kay, is the office

and retail sale manager. Carol and Jim's son, David, is the head peony hybridizer and diligently works at breeding new and better peony varieties. The Adelman's have not officially named any varieties yet. They are still increasing and evaluating these new and future prize winning peonies. David and his sons, Gregory and Todd, head up Adelman's selling space at the Portland Farmers' Market.

If you visit the display garden every week during the May bloom season, you can see and smell the succession of bloom time of 238 peony varieties. Carol and Jim began their display garden in 2004. They believe, "The display garden allows our visitors to see the plant habit, stem strength and bloom type and color to help them decide which peonies would suit their garden".

The peonies and the wide assortment of plants are labeled so you can cruise through the garden with a catalog and camera, order







peonies and get ideas for your own landscape.

It is a garden full of peonies but also a selection of perennials, annuals, shrubs and trees that are perfect companion plants with peonies. The garden's benches are strategically placed to help visitors relax and take in the whole beauty of the garden. As May in Oregon can be rainy, you can still see and smell peony flowers at the indoor cut flower display area. Carol

states, "We have an indoor display of all peony varieties in bloom for times of inclement weather or for those with limited mobility. Potted, blooming peonies in pots, ready to transfer to the garden, are available during open house. Cut flowers are available in small and large quantities".

Fall is also a busy time at Adelman Peony Gardens as their plants are famous in peony circles. Peony plants are dug from the fields, reduced to just their bare roots and shipped to gardeners in North America and around the world.

As usual with interviewing a plant person, I asked Carol if she has a favorite peony flower.

She had a stock Plant Geek's answer, but did declare an all time favorite. "My favorite peony can change every day and even during the day. But if I had to choose one it would be 'Mister Ed' because it has two colors of blooms on the plant. The flowers can have an iridescence to them that is glorious"!

Carol and Jim belong to many plant and flower societies, including, Pacific Northwest Peony Society and Canadian Peony Society. Their awesome talent of growing great peonies has garnered them 'Best of Show' ribbons for 8 of the last 11 years at the annual American Peony Society Conventions. In reference to the group photo, Carol says, "I need lots of help to get the blooms on the competition





tables for the American Peony Society. These are friends/helpers from Oregon, Minnesota and Wisconsin. It takes at least 5 people to help me get all the labels and entry forms written and attached to the entry then taken to the correct classification location. I have to know my flowers - lactiflora, hybrid, intersectional, tree peony, then bloom type - single, semi-double, Japanese, bomb, or double - plus the variety name to fill out the entry form".

#### **Adelman Peony Gardens 'Best of Show' winners**

2003-Paeonia 'Coral Charm' Herbaceous Peony

2004 P. 'Garden Treasure' Itoh Peony

2005-P. 'Garden Treasure' Itoh Peony

2006-P. 'Coral Charm' Herbaceous Peony

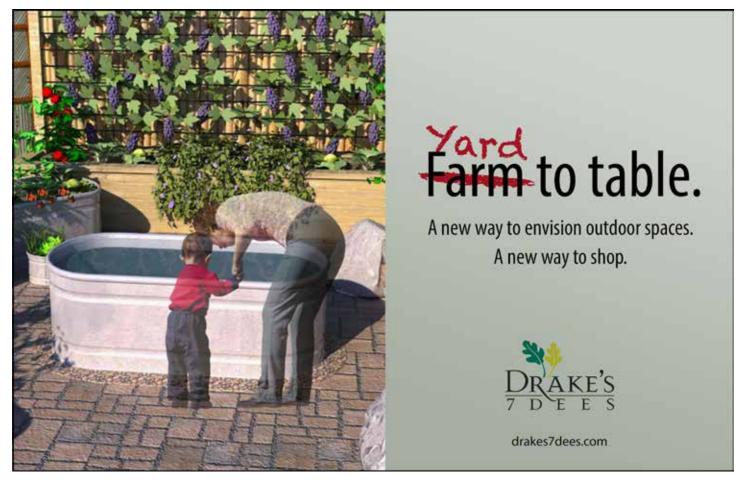
2008-P. 'Brother Chuck' Herbaceous Peony

2009-P. 'Stellar Charm' Herbaceous Peony

2012-P. 'Hephestos' Herbaceous Peony

2013-P. 'Boreas' Tree Peony

Even though Carol and Jim are integral partners in the peony farm, they find time to travel to either check out peony growers or to share information on growing peonies. They have visited peony growers in New Zealand, China, Germany, The Netherlands and Canada.



Carol has spoken at many national peony societies including the American Peony Society, Alaskan Peony Society and Wisconsin Peony Society.

This year Carol and Jim will travel to Kentucky for the American Peony Society annual convention and flower competition. They are hoping to bring home another ribbon for their trophy case. I think as much as they enjoy visiting far reaching peony farms or peony flower shows, they are always anxious to return back to their beautiful farm and gardens in Oregon. They are close to their extensive family and love what they do at their Peony Paradise.

**Adelman Peony Gardens** 

5690 Brooklake Rd NE Salem, OR 97305 503-393-6185

www.peonyparadise.com











#### **Adelman Peony Gardens Herbaceous Peony Growing Tips**

Hardy to -50° F

Full Sun or Afternoon Shade

- Add compost to planting hole to increase drainage.
- Light fertilizer when foliage begins to emerge in spring and again when they begin to go dormant in fall.
- Make sure that only a maximum of 2 inches of soil cover the peony crown. Any more soil than that is detrimental to plant health.
  - Keep soil evenly moist during growing season.
- If fungus disease occurs, treat foliage with fungicide.

After the foliage has died down in fall, trim back and remove all foliage. This discourages any disease or insects overwintering near the crown of the peony.

#### 2015 Events at the **Adelman's Peony Gardens & Farm**

May 1st - June 15th from 9 am to 6 pm daily

Including Mother's Day weekend and Memorial Day weekend events

For a complete List of events, please go to

www.peonyparadise.com





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# eats

# When Life Hands You Lemon-grass

# You can make all sorts of good things!

by Judy Alleruzzo

Many years ago, I ordered soup at a Thai restaurant. At the time, I was not very familiar with Thai food but I enjoyed all the exotic flavors in this cuisine. The soup was delicious but contained inedible wooden pieces that had a tangy lemony flavor. I pushed them to the side and savored the rest of my meal. Later, I did a little research and found out that the wooden pieces were stalks of lemongrass and were added to flavor the soup and not supposed to be eaten. I learned a valuable culinary lesson and now add lemongrass to many a Thai recipe in my kitchen.

Lemongrass is native to India, Asia, Guatemala and the West Indian Islands of the Caribbean. Most popular in Southeast Asian cooking, this herb looks and grows like an ornamental grass. The intense lemon flavor can be infused in teas, soups and many different recipes. The most favorable and aromatic part of lemongrass is the heart



of the stalk found at the bottom 5-6 inches near the soil line. It's best to peel off the outer layers to reveal the inner fleshy part of the stalk. To use in recipes, add the stalks as directed and either remove before serving to your guests or instruct them not to eat them.

#### Storage for future use

- Freeze sliced lemongrass pieces in a single layer in zip lock freezer bags
- Freeze small portions of minced or pureed lemongrass for your favorite recipes

The leaves of lemongrass are flavorful too. Dry them as you would any other herb in your garden. Store the dried leaves in tightly sealed jars for up to 1 year.

You can use them for infusions and teas.

For a cup of tea, dried leaves can

be steeped in boiling water for a few minutes.

Strain out the leaves and sweeten the tea to taste.

Lemongrass has many medicinal properties. Research in Israel is looking into the affects of the lemongrass compound, Citral, as a cancer fighting agent.

Scientists are also looking into these properties of lemongrass:

- Anti depressant properties to relieve stress related conditions
- Anti Bacterial and Anti Microbial properties
- Antioxidant properties help to remove toxins in liver and pancreas
- Soothing tea for sore throats and laryngitis
- Teas to relieve joint pain and headaches

- Can be used to improve blood circulation
- Source of Vitamin A

Lemongrass can be used as a natural mosquito repellant. Citronella oil is found in lemongrass and helps to deter the pesky insects. If you are bothered by mosquitoes, plant lemongrass in containers around your deck or patio. Since it has the wonderful texture of an ornamental grass, the plants will look great in your containers and keep mosquitoes at bav.

We all love to grow an assortment of herbs in our garden or patio container.

Lemongrass may seem like an exotic herb but it's a tasty one.

This month, plant lemongrass among your basil and cilantro and try out one of these recipes, just remember not to eat the stalks!



is Easy to Grow

Height up to 5ft in one season.

Tender in Pacific Northwest, Hardy to Zone 10, 35°F, or grow as an indoor plant.

Plant in Sun and keep soil evenly moist in well drained

Fertilize as necessary.



# Lemongrass Shrimp Skewers

Serves 4 as a main dish 6 as an Appetizer

1 pound raw Shrimp, peeled and deveined

6 cloves of garlic, smashed

3 green onions, white and green parts, cut into 1 inch lengths

2 teaspoons brown sugar

1 teaspoon Asian Fish Sauce

Grated zest of 1 lemon or lime

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 freshly ground black pepper

1 tablespoon vegetable oil plus more for greasing grill and hands

1 teaspoon cornstarch

34 teaspoon baking powder

4 fat stalks Lemongrass, bottom 5 Inches only, halved lengthwise to form 8 "skewers"

Nuoc cham sauce for serving

In a bowl, toss the shrimp with garlic, green onions, brown sugar, fish sauce, lemon zest, salt,

pepper and oil. Put the shrimp mixture in the freezer to chill for 20 minutes.

Transfer the shrimp mixture to a food processor and pulse until the shrimp are coarsely chopped, about 10 (1second) pulses. Scrap down the bowl with a rubber spatula. Add the cornstarch and baking powder and pulse 2 or 3 more times to combine. The shrimp should be finely chopped with all the ingredients well incorporated into a coarse paste; should not have a completely smooth paste. If you do not have a food processor, chop the ingredients very finely with a knife. Do not use a

blender or you will end up with an inconsistent, gooey mess.

With well oiled hands, form about 3 tablespoons of the shrimp paste into a 3-inch long-oval. Gently press a lemongrass stick halfway into the oval. Use your hands to form the shrimp mixture around the lemongrass. It should look like a sausage on a stick.

Repeat with the remaining lemongrass and shrimp to form 8 skewers.

Alternately, form the shrimp into eight 2 1/2-inchdiameter patties. Refrigerate, covered until ready to cook, up to several hours.

Preheat the grill to medium. If possible, oil a smaller grate that you set on top of the grill rack; otherwise oil the grill racks. If the shrimp mixture is not already coated with oil, use your hands to lightly coat it with oil (you should only need 1 to 2 teaspoons on your hands).

Cook the shrimp, turning occasionally, until pink in color and springy, but not firm, to the touch, about 6 minutes total. Alternately, cook the shrimp in a nonstick frying pan over medium heat for about 3 minutes per side.

Serve with nuoc cham sauce and do not eat the lemongrass.



Recipes reprinted with permission from The Gluten Free Asian Kitchen Copyright © 2011 by Laura B. Russell, Celestial Arts. www.laurabrussell.com



# **Spring Fever Open House**

Nine specialty nurseries located in the Northern Willamette Valley will be opening their doors for a three day extravaganza of garden touring, plant sales and special events perfectly timed for peak garden photo ops! Feel the fever of plant lust and the thrill of finding those alluring beauties as you fill your wagon at each stop...pausing for munchies or libation and some sage gardening advice from your nursery hosts before heading to your next trail destination. Come out for a day in the country, meet the owners and find plants you may not see anywhere else.



29100 S Needy Rd Canby, OR 97013 (503) 651-2006



8268 S Gribble Rd, Canby, OR 97013 (503) 263-2428

Memorial Day Weekend Sat, Sun & Mon May 23, 24 & 25 Open Hours: 10 to 5 at each nursery



6543 S. Zimmerman Rd Aurora, OR 97002 503-651-2887



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Visit www.CascadeNurseryTrail.com for details *Follow the trail for a plant adventure...* 



Miller's Manor Gardens

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#### **Nuoc Cham Sauce**

Nuoc Cham is a staple of the Vietnamese table. The sauce is very basic, yet it introduces a balance of sweet, tart, salty and spicy to your meal.

Keep a batch in the fridge for up to 2 weeks

Makes about 1 3/4 cups

1/3 cup sugar

1 cup very warm tap water

1/4 cup Asian fish sauce

1 tablespoon freshly squeezed lime juice

1 tablespoon unseasoned rice vinegar

1 clove garlic, minced

1/4 red pepper flakes

In a small bowl combine the sugar and water.

Stir until the sugar dissolves. Add the fish sauce, lime juice, rice vinegar, garlic and red pepper flakes. Refrigerate until ready to use. The sauce will keep in the refrigerator for about 2 weeks.



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#### **Ginger Lemongrass Iced Tea Cocktail**

**Ingredients** 

2 oz. Ginger infused Black Tea (cooled)

2 oz. Ginger Ale (or better yet, Ginger Beer)

1 oz. Tea Infused Vodka

1/2 oz. Lemon Grass Simple Syrup

Ice

Fill a Low ball glass with ice, combine remaining ingredients, and give it a stir. Garnish with the end of a stalk of lemongrass\* or a slice of lemon.

From www.thefooddocs.com



#### **Lemongrass Simple Syrup**

2 stalks fresh lemongrass, coarsely chopped

2 cups water

1 cup sugar

Place lemongrass, water and sugar in a saucepan and bring to a boil.

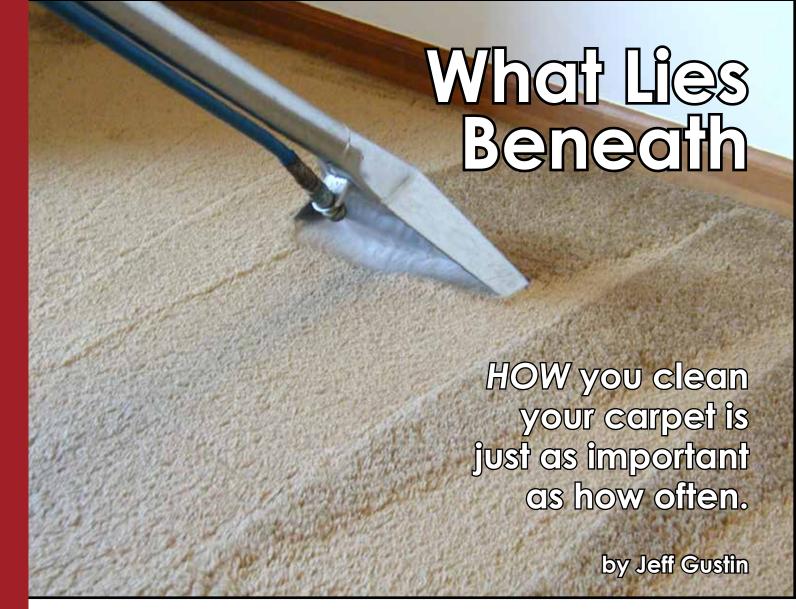
Reduce heat and simmer, partially covered for 15 minutes.

Strain mixture and cool.

Cover and refrigerate for up to a week.

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Some say that there is nothing like fresh grass between your toes. I get the same feeling with a nice piece of clean carpet. As a child I remember rolling around on the thick shag of my parents' house, sometimes ending up with carpet burns as I played. But there is nothing worse than a matted down carpet to ruin part of this feeling and to limit the life of your flooring. With a carpet there are specific ways you can extend the life of your carpet by the way you clean it. Simple vacuuming will remove the daily dirt and debris, but you should also give your carpet a good deep cleaning about every 12 to 18 months. This type of deep cleaning will remove the oil dirt and stains that an ordinary vacuum won't get. Plus it

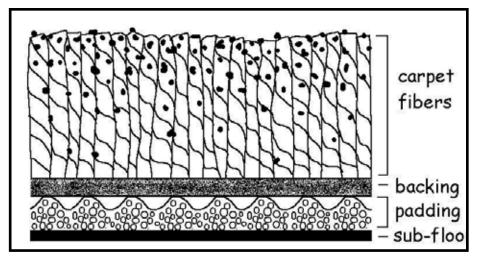
will remove most of the allergens that will find a home in your beautiful deep pile. Hot water extraction, the professional term and also known as 'steam cleaning', is the best route to take. Some carpet companies actually may require proof of frequent steam cleaning if you want to maintain the warranty of your carpet. You can either contact a professional service or you can also do it yourself with a high quality system or machine. If you contact a professional they should be IICRC (Institute of Inspection, Cleaning, and Restoration Certification) certified. If you use a machine and do it yourself you should seek an expert's advice and know how. The reason for the advice is to help determine which machine or process is

best for the type of carpet you have. A little homework now will save you from those future headaches.

#### To pre-treat or not to pretreat! That is the question...

If you have carpet you know that sometimes it can look fine, except for that one stubborn spot where Uncle Ed spilled his wine during the holiday party (one of the reasons we don't clean our carpets until after the holidays!) Of course the best method of stain removal is to wipe up the spill as quickly as possible. So do you pre-treat your carpet before doing your large cleaning and what do you use to remove those stubborn spots? The key is to remove the stain without damaging the

carpet or making the spot even worse. But be careful about using any home remedy. If you google 'carpet stains' you will get a bunch of solutions which may not do a good job, or make it worse. Once again, if you have a warranty on your carpet you will want to make sure that you are using a material that is approved for use on your carpet. If you have questions, check with the location where you purchased the carpet, which will ensure that your warranty stays in place.









#### An ounce of prevention...

Of course the key to longevity of your carpets is to be proactive in your cleaning and maintenance. As I mentioned before, your carpet will look better and maintain its warranty with regular, approved cleanings. How does one prevent future problems? Well, applying a stain guard is a good start. These pre-treatments will help prevent spills and other accidents from permanently staining your carpet. Sometimes this is an additive to your cleaning solution when you clean you carpet. Other times it is a topical application to your carpet. That means it is sprayed on top of your carpet. Some other ways of keeping your carpets clean is to use a mat at your doors so people can





wipe their feet or asking people to remove their shoes. Regular vacuuming is also a must for longevity. Using a quality vacuum with a HEPA filter (one that filters out fine particles) is recommended. Also, make sure that your vacuum filter and bag are empty for best performance and suction. This will help family members with asthma and with the general cleanliness of your home. If you have pets you will also want to make sure that you stay on top of stains by removing them quickly and vacuuming even more often to stay ahead of the fur problems.

For more information on selecting a great carpet you can contact our friends at **Cascade**Flooring America in Vancouver, and for those who want to know more about cleaning your carpets correctly you can see the experts at **Starks Vacuums**.





# WIDIIG

The month of May is the best of all worlds. Most of the Spring flowers are still in bloom. The weather continues to get warmer and, occasionally, teases us with an almost-summer-like day. And, the fruits of our labors (figuratively and literally) start to reveal themselves. It also ushers in the arrival of plant-harming insects. Be vigilant! Your plants are counting on you to protect them.

#### **PLANNING**



- Get ready to hang your flowering baskets. This is the best month for getting a basket or three to hang outdoors and show off your green thumb to all the neighbors. Use a good flower fertilizer every other watering to get the best results.
- Get the watering system ready for summer irrigation. Check hoses for leaks and the sprinklers

to make sure they still work well. This would be a good time to create a more automatic drip irrigation system for the gardens!

• Keep a check on soil temperature for veggies you can plant out this month. Most of the warmer season veggies will be able to go in this month.



## **PLANTING**

 Divide your stored dahlia clumps and plant the tubers.
 Dahlias produce more flowers on thicker stems if lifted in the fall



and then divided in the spring and replanted.

• Flowers & Annuals: Plant out gladiolas,

begonias, canna lilies, dahlia and lilies bulbs. Planting after

mid-month should be safe for all these annuals: marigolds, asters, fuchsias, wax begonias, geraniums, daisies, salvias, snapdragons, stock... in other words, most all the annual flowers!

- Perennials like carnations, candytuft, delphiniums, daylilies, phlox, cone flowers, lavender and heuchera are just a few of the varieties of perennials you can plant right now.
- Landscape planting now still

gives the plants a good head start on a strong root system before the summer heat sets in.

• This is the month to plant your Rose bushes. They also make a

great Mother's Day gift!



• Tomatoes and other warmer weather veggies can go in now.

### **TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP**

- Watch for late frost! This is the time of year the late frosts can do the most damage when plants have flower buds ready to burst and we get all excited and plant out everything we can find. Cover the tender plants when frost is forecast with Harvest Guard protective yard and garden cover.
- Remove Rhododendrons spent flower heads as
- soon as they are done blooming. This is mostly for appearance because the plants will set buds for next year even if they are not deadheaded.
- Protect young plants from slugs with Bonide's Slug magic. Be on the lookout for the little eggs that resemble white B-Bs. Using Bonide's Slug

# nat To Do In The Garden

Magic is safe around pets and



breaks down into usable iron for the plants to consume.

 Monitor plants for insects like

aphids and spittlebugs and the like. Most control can be handled with a burst of water from the hose or hand picking off.

• Be on the lookout for codling moths on apple and pear trees. Adults typically emerge in May-June. Pheromone-baited traps can be used to reduce populations of male moths. Remove brush, debris, and culled fruit from orchards. Remove loose

bark to eliminate possible hiding places for cocoons. Wrap trunk with corrugated cardboard or burlap to trap migrating larvae. Periodic removal of these tree wraps to destroy cocooning larvae, can help a lot.

· Watch for notching insect feeding damage on rhodys and other broad-leafed evergreen plants. This could be the root weevil and it is a bit harder to detect. Go out at night with a flashlight to see them eating your rhodies or place some paper below the plants at night and tap on the plants. If you hear the little 'plops' of something dropping onto the paper, you may get to see the sneaky root weevil adults. Once the soil temperature is 55F or above you can use the safe

organic 'Beneficial Nematodes' around the plants if the weevils are found. BN are safe to use and work up to two years to totally destroy root weevil adults and grubs.

Over seeding a grass lawn or



starting from scratch: May is a good month for both of these tasks. Fertilize the lawn once every two months

for optimal color. Mow a bit higher as the weather warms. If you have used a moss killer on the lawn, don't put down grass seed for at least 6 weeks after that application.

# **VEGETABLE GARDEN**

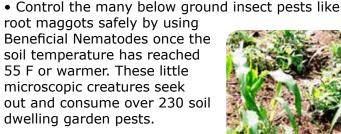
 Vegetables - Monitor soil temperature to see when you can safely plant out the warmer season crops. Wait until the soil is consistently above 70 F to plant out basil, cucumber, eggplant, melons, peppers, tomatoes and pumpkins or squash.

Plant anytime in May by seed: Arugula, Asian greens, snap beans, broccoli, brussels sprouts, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, sweet corn, dill, kale, lettuce, green onions, parsnips, potatoes, radishes, slow bolting spinach, swiss chard, turnips.

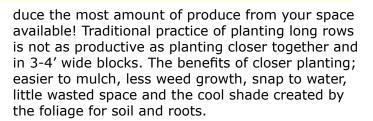
Plant out these starts in May (waiting for warmer soil temps for above mentioned veggies): Artichokes, basil, beans, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, collard greens, cukes, eggplant, kale, leeks,

lettuce, onions, parsley, peppers, squash, swiss chard, tomatoes and watermelon.

 Consider planting the veggie garden in what is called 'intensive planting' style AKA 'widerow gardening. This will pro-



· Control weeds by covering them, in between the rows, with layers of wet black and white newspaper or cardboard covered with compost.



· Control many vegetable insect problems by cover-

ing the crop with a row cover, like Harvest Guard.





#### G2T (Garden to Table): Tomatoes, Peppers, Cucumbers and Melons Saturday, May 2, 2015 • 1:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

With the warm weather arriving, this is the perfect time to plant heat-loving vegetables. In this G2T class, we are focusing on tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers and melons. G2T is a quarterly class we host here at Garland Nursery to walk you through the process of planting, maintaining, cultivating, and harvesting a particular produce. We then share different techniques to bring that produce to your table in a way you and your family will enjoy.

#### Lee Cheatle - Bonsai Restyling Sunday, May 3, 2015 • 1:00pm-4:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Do you have a Bonsai that has become overgrown and needs reworking? Bring up to two trees for our help and direction. Please healthy trees only! No repotting will be done. Students may use our tools but must provide their own wire which can be purchased. Class fee is \$35. Space is limited so please call 541-971-8979 or register at Garland.

#### Bloom Season May 8-31, 2015 Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

We'll be celebrating our 90th year! Come join the celebration! Open Daily: Cut Flowers and Gift Shop. Schreiner's Cut Flower Show: Cut flowers are available for \$7.50 per dozen.

Mother's Day Weekend Saturday-Sunday, May 9-10, 2015 Adelman Peony Gardens, Salem, OR Bring Mom. We'll give her a special gift!

#### Little Sprouts: Paint and Plant a Flower Pot for Mom Saturday, May 9, 2015 • 11:00am Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

At this month's Little Sprouts, we are focusing on that special woman in our lives, our mothers. Our little gardeners will be hand-painting special pots and planting them with a flower to give to mom for Mother's Day. Call (541) 753-6601 to register. Cost \$7 per child.

continued next column

#### Beginning Bonsai - Rose Bailey Saturday, May 9, 2015 • 11:00am-2:00pm Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Everything you need to get started in the art and enjoyment of Bonsai, including tree, pot, soil, wire, instruction, guidance, and hands-on fun! The fee is \$35, and you get to take home your very own Bonsai. Space is limited so please call 541-971-8979 or register at Garland.

# Iris Liqueur & Wine Tasting, Noon to 5:00 p.m. Saturday, May 9, 2015 • 12:00pm-5:00pm Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

Join us in the gardens opening day, Saturday, May 9th, from Noon to 5:00pm, for tastings from two wonderful Willamette Valley producers: Methven Family Vineyards and Elixir Iris liqueur! Both will offer samples of their products for a nominal fee.

#### How to Dig & Divide Iris Saturdays, May 9, 16, 23 & 30, 2015 • 1:00pm-1:30pm Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

Live demonstration on how to dig and divide Bearded Iris. All are welcome. No fee to attend.

#### Mother's Day Among the Iris Sunday, May 10, 2015 Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

Each year we celebrate all mothers with a free cut stem of Iris (available 10:00am-6:00pm). Parking and gardens are free and open to the public. Wine available for purchase. Browse our unique bloom-season gift shop featuring an interesting mix of home & garden accents. Buy mom a potted Iris from the selection of Bearded and Beardless Iris we have on hand in 1/2 gallon pots. Gardens open dawn to dusk.

#### Cruise In Saturday-Sunday, May 16-17, 2015 Adelman Peony Gardens, Salem, OR

Drive your antique, classic, hot rod, or unique car to see the peonies!

Fuchsia Society Show and Sale Saturday, May 16, 2015 • 9:00am-3:00pm Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

continued next page



#### **Must See Oregon** Saturday, May 16, 2015 • 10:00am-4:00pm The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

Be a tourist in your own backyard! Enjoy the second annual Must See Oregon event on May 16, 2015, 10am to 4pm in the Grand Hall, where you will visit with more than 40 Oregon destinations and attractions. This event is organized and produced by Class Act Events. Admission: On this day, admission to The Oregon Garden also includes admission to Must See Oregon; Adults: \$11, Seniors (60+): \$9, Students (12-17): \$8, Children 11 & under: Free – special pricing for Must See Oregon date. Activities in the Grand Hall: Oregon tourism on display showcasing over 40 Oregon destinations and attractions; Special Speakers, Authors and Guests; KGW reporter and author Grant McOmie; Author Steve Arndt. For a full list of activities, speakers and more, visit the official Must See Oregon website, www.mustseeor.com.

**Keizer Iris Festival Parade** Saturday, May 16, 2015 • 10:30am Keizer, Oregon

Keizer Iris Festival Parade begins at 10:30 a.m. Come early for the best seat! Parade begins at the corner of Lockhaven and River Road in Keizer, Oregon. For more information, go to IrisFestival. com maintained by the Keizer Chamber of Commerce.

#### Floral Arranging with Iris Saturday, May 16, 2015 • 2:00pm-3:00pm Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

Sue Bielemeier of Green Thumb Flower Box Florist in Salem, Oregon will work her floral magic in a free demonstration here at the gardens. Focusing on the use of cut Iris stems, Sue will show how to highlight the Iris among other blossoms in a variety of arrangements.

Artist Fair Saturday-Monday, May 23-25. 2015 • 10:00am-6:00pm Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

Artists from around the Willamette Valley shall congregate among the Iris for an art show and sale. View iris-themed works of art, chat with the artists,

continued next column

purchase works of art.

#### Memorial Day Chicken BBQ Monday, May 25, 2015 • 11:30am-4pm Schreiner's Iris Gardens, Salem, OR

Join us for our annual Schreiner's Iris Gardens Memorial Day Chicken BBQ featuring the culinary delights of the Gervais Knights of Columbus. Capital City Jazz Band entertains garden guests from 1:00pm-5:00pm. This annual event takes place every Memorial Day and is filled with fun for the whole family. Gardens and music free of charge; BBQ meal for a fee (includes a 1/2 chicken, coleslaw, baked potato, and beverage). Mt. Angel Sausage Co. will serve sausage and other tasty items on site all weekend.

**Festival of Flowers** May 29-June 9, 2015 • All Day Pioneer Courthouse Square, Portland, OR

Festival of Flowers at Pioneer Courthouse Square has always been one of Portland's most renowned festivals in the heart of downtown. Each year, the Square works with a local artist or design firm to create a masterpiece of vibrant color utilizing nearly 20,000 flowers and plant material. This year the design Doughnut Trip, comes from PLACE Studio and celebrates Portland's Coffee & Doughnuts: Two Portland Classics. But watch your step, or those treats might end up all over the Square! See more at: http://thesquarepdx.org/events/festivalflowers/#sthash.HtDBwSaU.dpuf.

Peony Volkswalk Saturday, May 30, 2015 Adelman Peony Gardens, Salem, OR

Join us for some fun exercise - 5 and 10 kilometer walks, with the last mile in the peony field. The longer route also includes visiting nearby hosta and daylily nurseries. Registration is from 8:00am-12:00pm.

LOOKING FOR MORE?

You will find more events and updated information on the Garden Time Events Calendar

www.gardentime.tv/events.htm

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