

August 2015

garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

Art in the Garden Reuse, Recycle, Revel

Oregon Garden Sunsets
Grevillea 'Long John'

CLIMATOLOGIST & AUTHOR, XERA'S
Paul Bodine

Driftwood Gate



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Drip, Drip, Drip...

No, I don't have a leak, but this month I wanted to talk about the drought and water. This has been a long dry summer even though we are only half way through it. The recent grass fires, dry lawns and sunburned plants are signs of the late summer that are showing up early, in late July. We have also noticed that a lot of fruits and vegetables are having a shortened season due to the excess heat and sun. Ripening berries have come and gone in record time. The harvest has been great, but very early! Growers, farmers markets and retailers have had the sad duty of telling their customers that their favorite fruit is no longer available because they ripened so quickly. Along with this heat have come the calls for water conservation.

During this hot and dry spell, we would like everyone to remember to take care of their gardens responsibly. First, make sure that your water is getting to the right areas. If your lawn has taken a turn for the worse and looks like a huge brown savanna, let it go. The normal lawn will go dormant in this type of weather and will return to green once the late summer and fall rains return. Trying to rescue it now would be futile and a huge waste of water. Instead, make sure your landscape plants that are not drought tolerant get a little extra drink now and then when those temps get really high. Also, keep areas around your house clear of dry debris to protect your home from wildfires. We have already seen how dry landscape bushes can ignite in the Vancouver area, when some loose fireworks caused them to catch fire and damage two homes. And speaking of drips, make sure that your sprinkler systems have been tuned up and are not leaking. Check the timer for your system to make sure it is functioning properly and on a good schedule of days. We have frequent tips on the Garden Time show from the Regional Water Providers Consortium during the spring and summer because they are the experts in using your water wisely. We always send people to their website, which has tons of great informative articles and videos. Be sure to check out their site at, <http://conserveh2o.org>.

In this month's issue we talk about this warm summer by sharing a great event that everyone should enjoy, the Sunsets in the Garden at the Oregon Garden. Therese tells us about the event and how you can enjoy some great music and featured Oregon beverages in the setting sun. With the summer heat making gardens go crazy right now, we know that heirloom vegetables are 'hot' as well. William found an heirloom vegetable that is becoming the rave with gardeners and bartenders. *Melothria scabra* or commonly called the Mexican sour gherkin, was recently featured in the book, *The Drunken Botanist*, by Amy Stewart. This little watermelon look-alike has a flavor that is hard to describe but oh-so delicious. It is worth a try in anyone's garden. Finally, Judy tells us how easy it is to bring art to your garden with vintage and recycled items. She not only shares examples, but she also has locations where you can pick up some cool stuff!

Remember to enjoy the summer by protecting your plants (and yourself) from the heat.

Happy Gardening!

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

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Circle Totem

Reuse, Recycle, Revel

With a little ingenuity, creativity and effort, you can discover unique garden art in the most unlikely places.

by Judy Alleruzzo

PHOTO CREDIT: RON SHEPHERD



Rusty Pipes

Garden art has been installed in gardens since the time of King Louis XIV and his beautiful Versailles Gardens and the Italian Garden of Villa d'Este.

The art in these gardens are over the top styled fountains, sculptures of fancy dressed people or mythical creatures. Famous gardens like these are unbelievable to see on vacation but a little much to emulate in our own backyards.

The latest trend for garden art is the wave of repurposed 'stuff' or the upcycling of everyday objects found around the house, garage or at an estate sale.

Using these found objects, you can showcase Great Gramma's old wash tub or Grandpa's garden tools. Family heirlooms like these make cool props in a garden bed or attached to the wall of the garage. If your family doesn't have these hand me downs, take a trip to your local rebuilding center.

Walking down the aisles you just need to look at the

material with a different eye.

You may find a piece of rusty rebar for a pole bean teepee or an old leaf rake for a clematis trellis.

What about an old fashioned window to enhance a blank expanse of wooden fence? Find a pair of shutters to enhance the design. It just takes a little imagination and creativity.

If you feel a little unsure of ideas, take time to go on line to get a more firm idea of a art project.

Pinterest is another huge source to search for garden art projects.

These are a few ideas of Recycled Garden Art.

Artist Ron Shepherd created "Circle Totem" from drum cymbals, a rusty saw blade and a Japanese fishing float he had collected from visits to estate sales and even E-Bay.



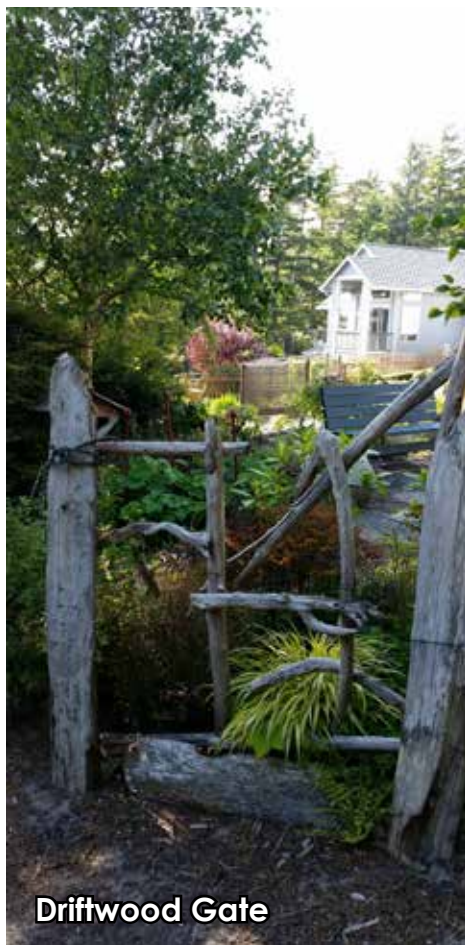
Mosaic Tower



Bamboo Sticks



Garden Tool Wreath



Driftwood Gate

The repetition of round shapes connects the diverse objects used in the art piece.

Barb Florig, the Display Manager and her staff at Al's Garden Centers uses recycled and repurposed objects in the garden center endcaps and displays. It's a good place to check out ideas for your own garden. She and her staff comb through Rebuilding Centers and the Habitat for Humanity stores for materials to use 'one more time'. They also use recycled paint from Metro and colorful sale material from local fabric stores. At her own garden, Barb has installed rusty pipes found at her brother's barn. They add a bit of whimsy but also form a partial screen to create a garden room.

Jan McNeilan, our Garden Time monthly special guest gave me the rusty metal rings from a rotted whiskey barrel. I drilled holes in the rings and tied them together to form an asymmetrical sphere.

This summer, I placed it next to my fig tree but it may be in the shade garden next year. Another idea for those metals rings or even old bicycle wheels is to attach them to a wall or fence. I love the mix of vines and wheels in the photo.

Our coastal GT friends, Carol & Jerry Palmer from Tillamook, Oregon, has a very unique mosaic tower in their garden. Carol saw the idea and experimented with the mosaic technique. It is the focal point in the center of their knot garden.

Check out the photo of the shed wall of tools and tool wreath. I saw them on a garden tour which is a good resource for project ideas to take home. The 2 concepts are a cool way to display garden tools of yesterday instead of storing them in your garage.

In the Portland area, there is a group of artists called Cracked Pots. These artists highlight recy-



Grandpa's Tools on Shed Wall

clad materials in their creations. Check out their website for Art Shows around the area.

They are interesting and eclectic shows to attend.

Repurposing household and found objects is a outlet for your inner artist and creativity.

Recycled Garden Art can be a souvenir from a day of antiquing or a remembrance of the "good old days". Take a stroll through your garage or a garage sale or even the local rebuilding store and see what you can find to produce a piece of art.

Sources

Building Material Resources, Inc.

14175 SW Galbreath
Sherwood, OR

ReBuilding Center

3625 N Mississippi Ave
Portland, OR

[www.
rebuildingcenter.org](http://www.rebuildingcenter.org)

Habitat for Humanity

10811 SE 2nd St.
Vancouver, WA

A Vintage Flea

Check them out
on Facebook

Cracked Pots

www.crackedpots.org



Rings on a Wall



Window as Garden Art



Sphere

Here Comes the Sunset

Take advantage of the day's end by spending it in a truly spectacular place.

by Therese Gustin

PHOTO CREDIT: ERIC SILBERG

If you've ever visited The Oregon Garden you know how beautiful this expansive garden is at different times of the year. Well the 'dog days of summer' are no exception. The Oregon Garden has much to offer all year long and beginning in August, offers a unique perspective on the Garden. Every Wednesday from August 5th through September 9th, Columbia Bank will sponsor 'Sunsets in the Garden'. It's a great way to enjoy a summer evening in the Garden after hours. You can spend the evening with live music, beer and wine tasting, tram tours and sunset viewing.

Sunsets in the Garden is an extension of the regular Garden hours and admission fees do apply. Included with regular admission to the Garden, those 21

and older can enjoy complimentary wine tasting and beer tasting from a local winery or brewery (additional beverages may be purchased after the tastings), live music, tram tours of the Garden and of course, views of the sunset from the Garden. The Garden will stay open until 9pm. Food will be available for purchase at the Garden Café which features fresh produce grown in The Garden. Well behaved pets

on a leash are allowed.

If you would like to stay longer, The Oregon Garden Resort is offering a 'Sunsets in the Garden' package which includes overnight accommodations, Sunsets in the Garden admission for two, food voucher to be used at Sunsets in the Garden, breakfast for two and admission to The Oregon Garden. All this starting at \$149. You can book online at www.oregongarden.org or by calling 503-874-2500 or 800-966-6490.

Take time this summer to enjoy all that The Oregon Garden has to offer by sipping a beverage, listening to music and relaxing in one of the most beautiful gardens in the Willamette Valley.

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Local Events August 2015

Sunsets in the Garden

Wednesdays, August 5-September 9, 2015
The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

Sunsets in the Garden features complimentary tastings from local wineries and breweries, live music, and the opportunity to watch the setting sun from the beautiful Sensory Garden.

• www.oregongarden.org

Ladies Night Out

Thursday, August 13, 2015 • 5:00pm-8:00pm(W)

Thursday, August 20, 2015 • 5:00pm-8:00pm(S)

Al's Garden Center, Woodburn & Sherwood, OR

Join us for a night of fun, fashion, food and friends in the Garden Center. See the latest fall fashions during the fashion show. Watch Chef Tracy create delicious, easy to prepare dishes at the cooking demonstration. Sip a glass of wine for sale from St. Josef's Winery and eat delicious food for sale from local food carts. Enter to win great prizes. Cost: Admission is free. Registration is required.

• www.als-gardencenter.com

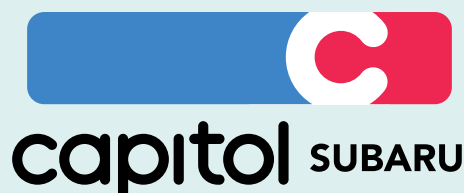
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• www.dahlias.com



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Schedule

August 5th

Music & tasting begin at 7pm

- music by Mikael Pederson
- tastings by Abiqua Wind Vineyard

August 12th

Music & tasting begin at 7pm

- music by Eric John Kaiser
- tasting by Ordnance Brewing

August 19th

Music & tasting begin at 7pm

- music by Christopher Weitach
- tasting by Wooden Shoe Vineyards

August 26th

Music & tasting begin at 6:30pm

- music by Brothers Bror
- tastings by Salem Ale Works

September 2nd

Music & tasting begin at 6:30pm

- music by Seahorse
- tastings by Hanson Vineyards

September 9th

Music & tasting begin at 6:30pm

- music by Isaac Turner
- tastings by Deception Brewing

Admission

- Adults \$11
- Seniors (60+) \$9
- Students (12-17) \$8
- Children 5-11 \$5
- Children 4 & Under Free
- Garden Members Free

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

Long Johns in the Summer



Hummingbirds love this elegant variety of Grevillea...and it will leave you feeling “in the pink!”

by William McClenathan

This month's Got to Have It is something special. Grevilleas are cropping up in so many garden centers, but G. 'Long John' is my favorite.

An ornamental, large shrub 8-10' x 8-10' for full sun or partial shade, it has coral-red profuse flowers appearing most of the year.

It tolerates medium frosts and extended dry periods once established. Long flowering and suitable as a cut flower, it is an excellent ornamental light screen or hedge.

And...it is a hummingbird magnet.

The botanical name is Grevillea 'Long John' and it is a member of the Proteaceae family.

As most of this family is not hardy in the Northwest, this member has the potential to be.

But remember, it is from Eastern Australia, so too wet is what mostly kills it. That means superb drainage, full blazing sun, and once established, hardly any watering.

It could handle a very small amount of shade, but I would keep that to morning shade only. But preferably, none at all.

And although frost hardy, it will most likely not survive anything lower than 25F for more than a couple of days.

It is a big shrub, 8-10 ft tall and as wide.

One of the most sought-after Grevilleas in Southern California, this hybrid can be difficult to propagate and is often in short supply.

The foliage will become yellowed in alkaline soils, but applications of iron sulfate or sulfur will correct the problem.

These are not easy plants to find. In fact, at the writing of this article no place I called had them currently in stock.

I found mine at Margie's Farm and Garden, formally known as Margie's Buds and Blooms. www.margiesfarmandgarden.com.

But even they did not have them this year. When I did buy mine there, it was in a gallon pot and in full bloom. So when you hear that they bloom young, it's accurate.

And the long skinny leaves are unlike most Grevilleas too. This makes for an elegant plant even when not blooming.

I can tell you this. I have killed more than one by doing this silly little thing...I overwater them.

I also keep mine in pots. Because when we do have those weird drops to 14 degrees, I want to make sure to be able to move it into a place of protection.

This plant will take some time to find as it is not widely grown and so desired by gardeners as to sell out quickly. But it is worth the chase just to see the exquisite blooms.

Plus, the hummingbirds will love you for the effort.

It is part of what makes this plant our Got to Have It.





Paul Bodine

The Perfect Storm

The forecast for Paul Bodine's future is sunny... but he's hoping for a little rain, too.

by William McClenathan

I find the best thing about writing the Hortie articles is the chance to meet and talk with those I interview.

This month is no exception.

Although I have known Paul Bodine for a very long time, we have never just chatted before. Not once.

So hearing about him and his path which led him to horticulture was delightful indeed.

And, as so often occurs, he certainly did not begin his adult career with horticulture in mind... but more about that later.

One thing I have seen revealed in almost every interview I have done is that these masters of horticulture have all had parents and or grandparents who gardened with them when they were very young.

Some of them, Like Paul, had both.

Paul was born in the great state of California.

Even then, the residents of that state were aware of the need to be cautious with their water.

Paul remembers gardening with his Grandmother, who loved flowers. She would meticulously keep them watered and maintained, all the while, imparting unspoken information to the very young mind of Paul.

And even though they had a well, it dried out every summer.

This should not be surprising considering that in Baja, California they get about 3" of rain a year.

Yes, your read that correctly. 3 inches a year.

So even though Grandmother loved flowers, she also planted many drought tolerant plants. Giving the extra supply of water only to those flowers which she

loved and required extra water to survive.

That capacity for drought tolerant plants continued even after the move to Eugene, Oregon with his parents.

His Mother was also an avid gardener. She was a teacher there in Remedial Reading and Social Studies.

Paul is an articulate speaker, so the effect of having a mother as a teacher paid off for him as an adult, as well as in the world of horticulture.

Paul went to college at OSU.

Now remember in the opening of this, I said we would get to 'that part' later.

Here is that part.

One would assume that Paul's degree would be in something horticulturally related, right?

But no.

His degree is in Climatology. Paul and I are friends in many of the social media sights, and if you are friends on those sights with him too, then you would now understand so many of his postings are about weather. He actually has a degree in it!

This may enlighten you the reader as to why his company grows the things they do.

After graduating, Paul took on a job at the Garden Center in Eugene known as "Down to Earth".

But he was ready for a change so he moved to Portland. It was then when he took a job at Blooming Nursery. To this day, he and the owner Grace Dinsdale are still friends.

But by 1999, Paul was ready for something new. He started his current endeavor. That company's name is now Xera.

Originally, it was named Viva when it opened in 1999. This was



done with the other half of the company, Greg.

Paul met Greg at...where else...a plant party.

Their friendship eventually led them to open the wholesale plant company now known as Xera.

The name changed in 2008 because Home Depot came out with a line of products named Viva. No one wants that. So if you cannot remove the mountain in front of you, you go around it.

Ironically, Xera was the second choice for the original name of



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the company back in 1999. This proves the wisdom in always having a back- up plan.

And go around it he has.

To most plant nerds in the Northwest, Xera has become a Mecca for amazing plants. Unusual, beautiful and quite often water wise.

Again, none of this is surprising once you know Paul's history.

Xera delighted retail customers when they recently opened their own store www.xeraplants.com/Xeraplants.com/Retail_INFO.html.

Although I asked Paul about any new locations, he said they were happy with the one, for now.

Paul said that after years in the wholesale business, he was thrilled to deal directly with consumers.

Sometimes, a new injection of life is exactly what we require.

This brilliant garden center gem is a place where the plant geek in all of us feels right at home and

is encouraged to come out and play.

But neither should his first book from Timber Press be surprising to anyone as his passion tends to lean towards the unusual and uncommon, when he was approached by Timber Press in 2008 to write a book, he did so immediately.

And he is not one to dally, as the book was also released in 2008, less than a year after he was approached by them.

The title, 'Black Plants', is still available and certainly worth purchasing.

It is a delightful read on the amount of plants colored this way. The photography is also stunning.

But if all this were not enough, Paul was approached by Timber Press again to write another book. Due to come out next year in 2016, this one to me feels like a real big seller.

The title, "Growing in a North-West Garden; Climate adapted

Xera Plants, Inc.

**11220 SW Tonquin Road
Sherwood, OR 97140
503-612-9950**

<http://www.xeraplants.com/>

plants for gardeners in the Pacific Northwest"... pretty much defines it all.

I assumed immediately that it would be about natives, at least partly. But it is not, completely anyway.

Paul's theory is that natives are very specific plants. There are a few which can be grown and placed in many different landscapes, but most require specific ecosystems which private gardens and gardeners can seldom create for them

In his opinion, the native areas in most garden centers look like the Ghettos of the nursery...I could not agree with him more.

This book is more about plants which come from regions all





over the world which have similar climates to ours. Meaning; wet winters and hot, dry summers.

Clever indeed.

As water becomes a higher concern to people worldwide, wouldn't it be grand to be able to find a book with information which allows a gardener to find the plants which will work on the rain that nature provides it?

My time spent with Paul was a delight. Getting to know this man better and what his passions in the horticulture industry are was refreshing, occasionally surprising, but consistently delightful.

Allow me to leave you with what I considered Paul's most revealing and perfectly defining quotes.

"It is not about having the most rarest plant in the world which defines you, but what you do with the ones you actually have"

Paul Bodine. Perfect, indeed, just like my time with him was.



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In a Pickle!

The Mexican Sour Gherkin is so delicious, you might have trouble deciding how to use it.

by William McClenathan

Cucumber Mexican Sour Gherkin

Few plants cause such excitement to gardeners as *Melothria scabra* or commonly called the Mexican sour gherkin.

It is a relatively, newly rediscovered heirloom.

So what's so cool about it? To start with it is an edible. It produces abundant crops of small fruits which are reminiscent of tiny watermelons. They have a luscious cucumber flavor contrasted by a surprising sourness, as if they are already pickled.

This gherkin tastes even better than it looks, mild and lemony, and is eaten without peeling. I've found entire salad recipes built around the gherkin.

Jack Staub, the noted horticulturalist and author, writes in an

email interview, "Pickles are their primary use, but they're great fresh and salted too. You could also sauté them briefly with oil and garlic and serve them as a vegetable."

Given its odd appearance, why is the Mexican sour gherkin popping up in foodie blogs and drink recipes everywhere, including my good friend gardener-mixologist Amy Stewart, in her book *Drunken Botanist*? Because it is adorable, delicious, and easy to grow.

I completely concur. Check out the box on the next page for one of Amy's recipes for this dainty delight.

The sour gherkin has many names, including "cucamelon," "mouse melon" and, in Spanish, "sandita" or "little watermelon."

It should be said up front that the Mexican sour gherkin is technically not a cucumber. The genus *Cucumis* contains lots of familiar crops, including gourds, but only one species, *Cucumis sativus*, is considered a cucumber proper. The Mexican sour gherkin belongs to another genus entirely, *Melothria*. So it's not a real cucumber but an honorary one.

You can buy the seeds from Territorial Seed Company (www.territorialseed.com) from which I gathered this information on planting and growing them.

Care: Space 4-6' apart in all directions. Needs heat and well-drained soil: plant in full sun in raised beds or hills. The vigorous vines can be grown on a trellis or allowed to cascade from a large hanging basket. Ready to eat in

The Farmers Market

1.5 oz vodka

2-3 'Mexican Sour Gherkin' cucumbers

1-2 stalks 'Red Venture' celery

2-3 sprigs cilantro

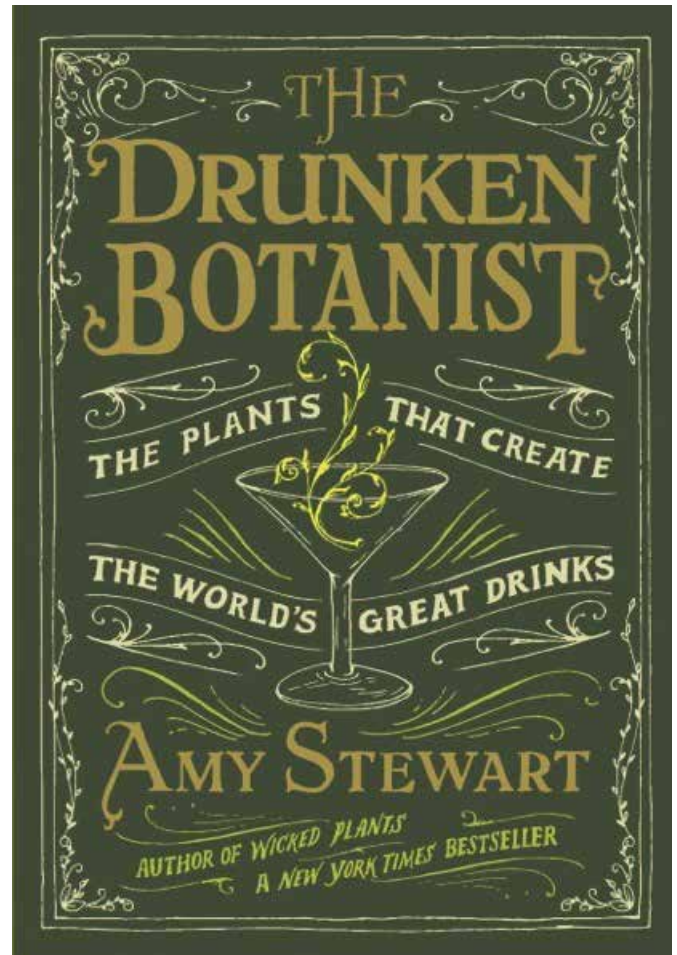
2-3 slices small spicy or mild peppers

6 cherry tomatoes or 1-2 slices large tomato

Dash of Worcestershire sauce
(try Annie's for a vegetarian version)

3-4 oz Q or Fever Tree tonic water

Reserve a celery stalk, cherry tomato, or cucumber for garnish. Combine all ingredients except the tonic water in a cocktail shaker and gently crush the vegetables and herbs, making sure to release the tomato juice. Shake with ice and strain into a tumbler filled with ice. Top with tonic water and add garnish.



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60-70 days.

You can also find them grown by our own Alice Doyle of Log House plants (www.loghouseplants.com). It was Alice who first introduced me to this diminutive delight many, many years ago. It was also she who informed me while filming with her this year that it actually makes tiny tubers which, if kept from freezing or being too wet, will come back year after year.

I would always move mine into the greenhouse so I could lengthen the harvest time on it. I would then just let it 'die' and each year was thrilled when it grew again. I thought it was reseeding, but in reality the plant was producing the tuber-like root from which it regrows.



Silly me, and I thought it was just reseeding. Thankfully I am never too old to learn something new.

You can purchase the seeds through Territorial, or go to the Log House website to find who carries their stuff and get one for yourself.

I suspect like me, you will catch yourself popping these little treasures into your mouth every time you walk past them in your garden.





Garden Time Tours

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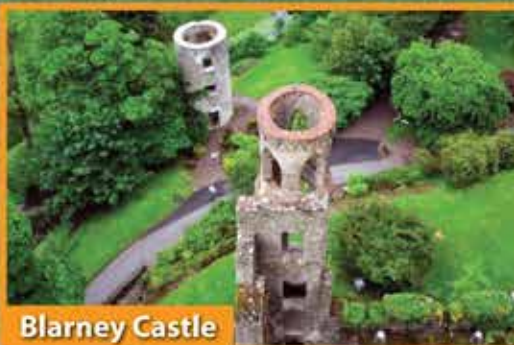
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CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION AND FORMS ON OUR WEBSITE>>

Join us for this exciting Garden Time Tour!

Participation is limited. We recommend you book early.

Link to this information on the Garden Time website:
www.GardenTime.tv/tours

For more information, call Carolyn Horne, Time To Travel Tours • (503)684-5997

TRIP BOOKED THROUGH



Hang a large piece of art to create a focal point.



PHOTO CREDIT: BEN HUSMANN / FLICKR

IMPERMANENT SOLUTIONS

Renting your living space doesn't mean you can't decorate.

by Sarah Gustin

Maybe you are renting and have stringent rules attached to your abode (no holes! No damage! Nothing permanent!), or maybe you own and you

are just fickle about your décor. Either way, anyone can benefit from having a few tricks up your sleeve when it comes to non-permanent decorations. Here are just a few ideas on how to temporarily spruce up your space!



Eco woods installs over any surface and is easy to remove.

First and most importantly, if you have not already discovered the Command Strip, then find some. This is the greatest aid to those of us who want to make a bland space our own, but still want our deposit back one day. A Command Strip has a powerful adhesive that will stick to any wall, and will simply pull free when you are done. They come in many varieties now, including hooks and Velcro, for any item that you want to stick on the wall. Use several Command Strips to hang oversized wall art to cover a large expanse of beige wall. Or use them to hang several small picture frames and create a "frame wall" or a cluster that can become a focal piece.

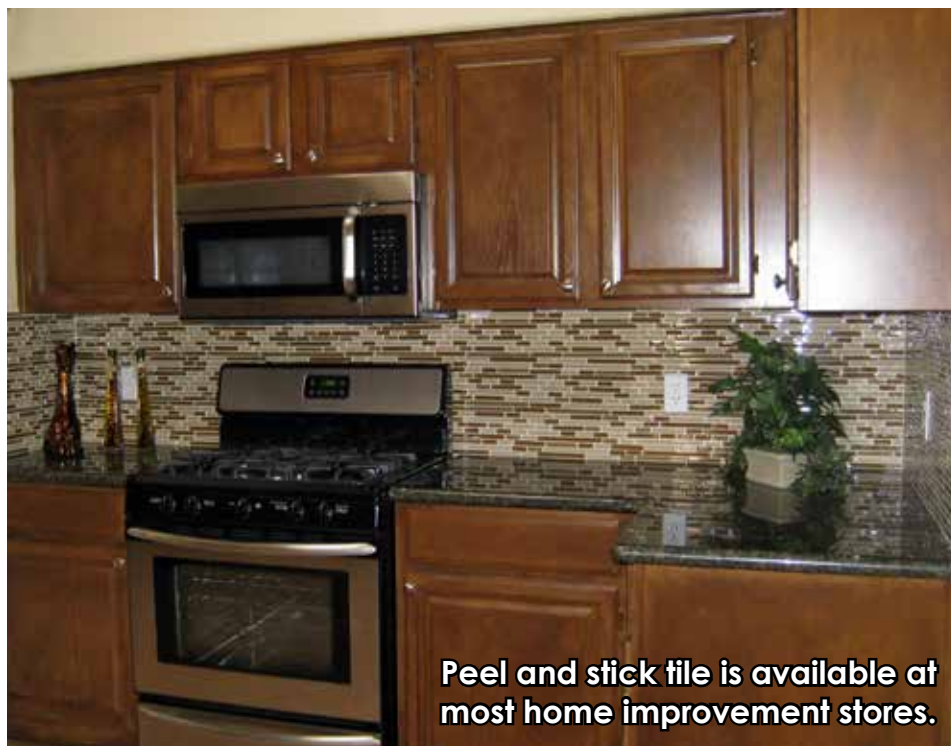
Don't be afraid to get creative with your Command Strips! Find wallpaper that you like? Use Command Strips to cover an accent wall! Bored with your cabinets? Cut down a strip to fit the back of some new hardware. It will hold knobs on without having

to drill any holes in your doors and drawers.

The next most exciting innovation in the non-permanent décor scene is "temporary wallpaper". This stuff is everywhere now, even Dollar Tree! From words, to pictures, to decals, to full sheets of wallpaper, this magnificent invention will stick right up on your walls and peel off without a trace. Many brands of temporary wallpaper are available online or at your local home décor store, or create your own custom design at spoonflower.com.

There are lots of companies now that are creating elegant temporary décor. Mibo is a UK based company that makes temporary "tile tattoos" to spruce up your boring backsplash (find online at www.mibo.co.uk/collections/tile-tattoos). Or, check your local hardware store for peel and stick tile sheets to create an elegant backsplash in your kitchen or bathroom. Want to update your poured concrete back "deck"? Eco woods makes amazing temporary eco decking tiles that easily click in place over any surface and remove without a trace (www.ecowoodscalifornia.com/woods.html).

One of the neatest new temporary wall covering projects that I've come across is applying fabric to a wall. This can be done with a large sheet, covering the whole wall or a small cut design. Use corsage pins (they won't leave a noticeable hole in the wall) to pin your fabric where you want it. If you are covering an entire wall, make sure that you leave extra fabric, as it will shrink as it dries. Paint over the fabric with liquid starch, saturating it and gluing it to the wall, while making sure to give extra attention to the edges. Leave the pins in and let dry overnight. Once it's dry, remove the pins and give it a second coat of starch. If you are covering an entire wall, you'll want to use an exacto knife to



Peel and stick tile is available at most home improvement stores.

PHOTO CREDIT: DRU BLOOMFIELD/FlickR



If you aren't familiar with using these for your removable decorating, you should be.

PHOTO CREDIT: ATHRIFTMRS.COM/FlickR

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Use command strips to cluster pictures to break up a large boring wall.

PHOTO CREDIT: ADVAIT SUPNEKAR/FLICKR

trim your edges. The fabric will stay up for years, and peel away when you're ready. Rinse the wall with warm water and it's like nothing was ever up!

For me, part of decorating is just simply un-cluttering your space. In an apartment I don't have a choice as to what kind of storage is available to me. Getting a little creative with how you stash your things can give you more room to make your living space your own. California Closets are amazing, but are both spendy and too permanent. Create (or purchase) temporary cabinet shelving to streamline your space.

Whatever the reason, it can be very handy to be able to make a space your own in a temporary way. It can be daunting to decorate a large space in a non-permanent way. The benefit is, if you don't like what you've done, you can easily change it!



Mibo tile tattoos cost a little extra but resist water and peel off when you need them to.



Many brands sell temporary shelving to help organize your space.



Temporary wallpaper is widely available in many styles.

WTDITG

Our Northwest summers aren't nearly as hot as other places in the country, but it's not uncommon to have a few 100 degree days. Plants, just like people, need special care when the temperature rises. Be sure you give your plants the same attention during these hot spells that you would your pets or kids.

PLANNING

• Have you been good about keeping up with the journal writing? We won't tell if you want to just sit down and cheat some notes from spring and summer now. If this helps you grow better crops

next year we think you'll enjoy the act of noting the good and the bad things that happened in the garden this season.

PLANTING



- Time to plan on a new lawn? August through mid-October is prime time to get a new lawn put in.

In the late summer and fall the grass seed germinates in the warm soil so much faster than in April or May. Good grass seed blends will give you the best looking lawn on the block, plus add some lime and good fertilizers to start lawns with!

- Time to over seed a tired lawn? For the same reasons given in the above note on planting a new lawn, over seeding an old tired lawn is great to do now too. Mow the lawn short, (this one time we give you permission to mow it short) thatch (rent a thatching machine to make the job a lot easier) and then seed with premium lawn seed blends for this area. Cover the seed barely with some Organic Compost to keep the birds away from the seed. Fertilize with natural lawn fertilizers for outstanding results. Keep the compost dark with moisture

while seed is starting.

- Plant perennials and biennials from seed this month directly in the garden. The seed germinates pretty quickly in the warm soil and big beds of future flower



color can be created starting with seed now.

TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

- Clean up the strawberry beds. After final harvest, cut off all foliage (fun and fast to run over the bed with a lawn mower set on high, so as not to damage the plant crowns). Water and fertilize with Azalea & Camellia fertilizer to encourage strong new growth. You can also reduce a thick planting at this time by removing the "mother" plants, leaving the newer "daughter" plants.

- Mulch the garden and ornamental beds if needed to conserve soil moisture. If you have not mulched the garden beds yet you'll notice they dry out very fast. Get topdressing on the beds of Organic Com-

post or bark to hold in soil moisture, retard weeds and make it easier for soil to absorb water. Keep the flowering annuals dead-headed and fertilized to keep them going strong until fall.



- Prune Raspberries and other cane berries after harvest.

Summer crop raspberries produce fruit on two-year-old canes. After harvest, the two-year-old canes that produced the fruit begin to die. Remove the old

What To Do In The Garden

AUGUST

canes anytime after harvest.



During the growing season, keep only 1 to 2 of the strongest new one-year-old canes per plant. Continually cut out all

the small canes and sprouts. The big, strong canes will produce the following summer's crop.

Ever bearing raspberries produce their main crop of berries in the fall, on the top 12" of one-year-old canes. After harvest, you have two choices: 1) remove the top portion of the cane that has fruited, leaving the rest of the cane to produce a crop the following spring, or 2) cut the canes off at ground level in mid-October, thus allowing the plant to fruit only in fall (the fall crop on ever bearing varieties is superior to the spring crop). If you choose to let the plant produce two crops, remove the two-year-old canes after harvest.

- Make sure the irrigation system is working properly if using one or create one if you haven't yet—it's never too late. Watering plants thoroughly and deeply is

very important this time of year.

- Work on your compost piles. Make compost out of grass clippings and any clippings or pulled plants that are ready to be recycled, unless foliage is diseased. If you have a pile going already,



turn the compost over and water it if necessary. Do not use grass clippings in compost if you have used weed kill-

ers on the lawn! To get the pile decomposing faster use compost starter. The addition of microbes and good bacteria will help plant material break down faster.

- Mow the lawn higher in hot-ter weather. Grass 'roots' length is directly related to the grass 'shoots' length. In other words if you scalp the lawn short, then the roots will be ultra short too. The longer grass blades help shade the lawn roots, help the grass compete with weeds for space and allow the grass plants to lengthen its roots deeper to where the soil does not dry out as quickly. Plus the leaf blades are where photosynthesis takes place

so when you cut the lawn short it can no longer feed itself!

- Water the lawn with 1 inch of water once a week. To determine how long to water, place empty cat food or tuna fish cans out on the lawn under a sprinkler and time how long it takes to fill the can to 1" deep. That is all the water needed, once a week to maintain a beautiful lawn.

- If you have been maintaining your lawn with irrigation then apply a good fertilizer to carry it into the fall. Use natural lawn fertilizer for a dose of natural pro-bi-

otic microbes that will help break down naturally, thatch and encourage deep root development.



- Keep an eye out for fresh notched leaves on ornamentals. Root Weevil adults are still feeding this month.

- Apply Beneficial Nematodes to the beds below rhododendrons and azaleas to fight root weevil damage.

VEGETABLE GARDEN



- Continue to fertilize the vegetable and herb crops. This will aid in maintaining good production through your harvest months.

- Seed out, directly in the garden, for fall and winter crops;

Arugula, basil, broccoli raab (aka Italian broccoli) cabbage, cauliflower, cilantro, collards, kale, lettuce,

mache, mustard greens, radishes, salad greens, spinach, swiss chard and turnips.



- Plant a cover crop called 'green manure' in the spaces vacated by harvested crops. This 'green manure' will be turned over, into the soil before it flowers to decompose, adding rich nutrients back into the garden soil.



PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town

Hydrangeas

Saturday, August 1, 2015 • 10:00am(S,G); 1:00pm(W)
Al's Garden Ctrs, Sherwood, Gresham & Woodburn, OR

Hydrangeas have been enjoyed by gardeners for generations, and for good reasons! They are easy to care for, extremely hardy, come in many sizes and forms, and have beautiful blooms year after year. Join us to learn about which ones will suit your garden conditions, how to prune for reliable blooms, how to affect bloom color, and other hydrangea basics. Cost: Seminar is free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Speaker: Al's Experts.

Fall Vegetables and Seeds

Sunday, August 2, 2015 • 1:00pm
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

During these hot August days it is hard to believe that autumn is just around the corner. Now is the time to plot and plan out our fall vegetable gardens for our cool weather feasts. Join us as we review the plants and seeds that are best for Northwest fall weather and tips and tricks to promote a bountiful harvest.

Little Sprouts: Garden Art

Saturday, August 8, 2015 • 11:00am
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

We are tapping into the creative side of our young gardeners at this month's Little Sprouts. We are creating beautiful garden art from recycled materials. Registration required. Call (541) 753-6601 to register.

Wee Tree: Beginning Bonsai Workshop

Saturday, August 8, 2015 • 11:00am-2:00pm
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Back by popular demand is the Beginning Bonsai Workshop, everything you need to get started in the art and enjoyment of Bonsai, including tree, pot, soil, wire, instruction, guidance and hands-on fun! Each attendee gets to take home their very own Bonsai. This class fills up quickly, so register today! Space is limited and registration is required. Call Rose at 541-971-8979 or register at Garland Nursery. The cost is \$35 per person. Pre-registration and payment required.

Enter the World of Philodendrons

continued next column

Saturday, August 8, 2015 • 1:00pm-2:30pm

Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Bruce Fothergill. Bruce Fothergill will be bringing in a diverse selection of Philodendrons to talk about these showy leafed tropicals that make excellent houseplants. Learn about growing and caring for Philodendron and see some beautiful varieties from Fothergill's greenhouse.

Staghorn Fern Mounting Workshop

Saturday, August 8, 2015 • 3:00pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Bruce Fothergill. Join houseplant expert Bruce Fothergill for this hands-on workshop and take home your very own mounted Staghorn Fern! Bruce will walk you through the step-by-step process of properly mounting Staghorns to wooden boards. He will also discuss proper care, lighting and growing requirements to keep your fern healthy and happy for years to come! All materials included. Class limited to 15. Cost: \$15, payable to teacher day of class (Cash or check only).

How to Grow Cacti and Succulents

Sunday, August 9, 2015 • 1:00pm-2:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Luther Sturtevant of Kara Nursery. Get excited about the world of cacti and succulents! Join expert, Luther Sturtevant of Kara Nursery, to learn some great tips and techniques for how to keep your plants happy and healthy in the Pacific Northwest. He will discuss soils, fertilizing, light and water requirements, specific seasonal needs, and how to get your cactus and succulents to bloom.

Make Your Own Indoor Mixed Cacti or Succulent Dish

Sunday, August 9, 2015 • 3:00pm-4:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Angelina Ponce. Get guidance in selecting, potting and caring for your own creative planter of drought-tolerant, sun-loving cacti or succulents. The talented and green-thumbed Angelina Ponce will help you in this hands-on class so you can go home with a beautiful indoor container. \$25 materials fee.

continued next page



**Fall Vegetable Gardening
Saturday, August 8, 2015 •**

10:00am(W,G); 1:00pm(S)

**Al's Garden Ctrs, Sherwood, Gresham &
Woodburn, OR**

Did you know that you can grow vegetables in the autumn? The trick is planting while the soil is still warm enough. At this free seminar learn about which plants are suitable for fall gardening, and the correct timing for seeds or starts. Enjoy fresh produce from your garden right through the fall! Cost: Seminar is free and open to the public. Registration: Registration is not required. Speaker: Al's Experts.

Ladies Night Out

Thursday, August 13, 2015 •

5:00pm-8:00pm(W)

Thursday, August 20, 2015 •

5:00pm-8:00pm(S)

**Al's Garden Center,
Woodburn & Sherwood, OR**

Join us for a night of fun, fashion, food and friends in the Garden Center. See the latest fall fashions during the fashion show. Watch Chef Tracy create delicious, easy to prepare dishes at the cooking demonstration. Sip a glass of wine for sale from St. Josef's Winery and eat delicious food for sale from local food carts. In Sherwood, listen to live music from Basso a Deux. Enter to win great prizes and enjoy yourself and your friends at this fun night. Cost: Admission is free. Registration: Registration is required. Register online at www.als-garden-center.com.

Exploring Watercolor

**Wednesdays, August 12, 19, & 26,
2015 • 9:30am-12:00pm**

Leach Botanical Grdn., Portland, OR

Series class. Paint the garden in watercolor. Learn to paint what

continued next column

you see and create beautiful watercolors. This class will concentrate on watercolor washes, mixing colors and how to add pen and ink to your watercolors. Adult class, suitable for all skill levels. Instructor: Melissa Gannon. Preregistration required: \$70 nonmember / \$65 LGF member for series (12 student max.). 6704 SE 122nd Avenue. www.leachgarden.org 503-823-1671.

Sunsets in the Garden

Wednesdays, August 5-September 9, 2015

The Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

Sunsets in the Garden is an after-hours event that takes place on Wednesday evenings from August 5 to September 9. Sunsets in the Garden features complementa-

continued on page 33

Available Now!

The Garden Time Tulip

In honor of the 10th season of Garden Time, a brand new tulip has been named in our honor. The *Garden Time* tulip was hybridized by Leo Berbee from Jansen's Overseas, one of the leading tulip growers and distributors in Holland.



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More information at
The Garden Time Store



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PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town, continued

ry tastings from local wineries and breweries, live music, and the opportunity to watch the setting sun from the beautiful Sensory Garden. www.oregongarden.org.

Bonsai!

Saturday, August 15, 2015 • 11:00am
Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Join us for this informative class all about bonsai. All levels are invited. We look forward to seeing you! Free. Seating is limited. Please register ahead online or call (360) 225-8750.

Garden to Table : Brunch in the Garden

Saturday, August 15, 2015 • 10:30am
Farmingtong Gardens, Beaverton, OR

Time to kick back and spoil yourself. Call 503-649-4568 or email events@farmingtonggardens.com to register for one or all of our free classes this month. www.farmingtonggardens.com.

Houseplant Greenhouse Tour

Saturday, August 15, 2015 • 11:00am-12:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Jason Dennis. Our Houseplant Buyer, Jason Dennis will lead a tour of our tropical greenhouses. Enjoy viewing a wide range of houseplants while Jason explains the greenhouse layout and how to select the right plant for your home or office.

Houseplants for Healthy Indoor Air

Saturday, August 15, 2015 • 1:00pm-2:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Jason Dennis. Are you concerned about indoor air toxins common in the home and workplace? Did you know that some houseplants are effective at removing toxins such as benzene, formaldehyde and trichloroethylene? Join our Houseplant Buyer, Jason Dennis to learn about great houseplant choices to help keep your indoor air healthy.

Repotting Cymbidium Orchids

Sunday, August 16, 2015 • 11:00am-12:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Lori Rheinberger of the Oregon Orchid Society. Do you have a Cymbidium orchid and need some help with repotting questions? Get them answered here

continued next column

from the lively and knowledgeable, Lori Rheinberger, member of the Oregon Orchid Society. Lori will help you understand the proper timing, techniques and reasons for repotting Cymbidium orchids – some of the most popular available orchids purchased.

Make Your Own Fairy Garden

Sunday, August 16, 2015 • 1:00pm-2:30pm
Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Angelina Ponce. Creating a miniature world fit for a fairy or two is a great way to get in touch with your creative, playful side, and can make a wonderful gift! Angelina will lead the group in this hands-on class and help you design, accessorize, and learn how to properly care for your enchanting world. Choose between an indoor or outdoor fairy garden. Students are free to bring their own decorative items to incorporate into their fairy's garden, as well as shop our splendid and varied offerings. \$30 materials fee – pay cashier before class and bring gloves if you wish. Limited to 15.

The 2015 Annual Dahlia Festival

Saturday-Monday, August 29-31, 2015 • 10:00am-6:00pm

Swan Island Dahlias, Canby, OR

Also September 5-7. Field hours: dawn to dusk. Free admission and parking. Email: info@dahlias.com.

Seminar: Backyard Chickens

Saturday, August 29, 2015 • 10:00am
Al's Garden Center, Gresham, OR

Getting started with your own backyard chickens is easier than you might think. Al's of Gresham has everything you need to start your own little flock with chicks, supplies, and good advice, all in one place. Education is necessary if you're considering keeping chickens, and this is a great starter class where you can learn the basics, and get answers to your chicken questions. Cost: Seminar is free and open to the public. Registration: Registration is not required. Speaker: Al's Experts.

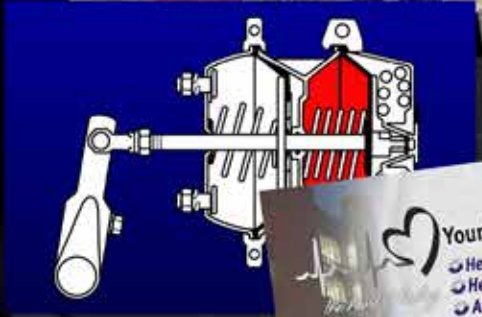
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www.gardentime.tv/events.htm

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