

December 2018

garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home

Poinsettias

By the Chimney, with Care

Good Winter Books
Imperfect Produce

INSECT ARTIST

Zebith Thalden



**ONLY AT
CAPITOL SUBARU!**

2 YEARS OF
COMPLIMENTARY
MAINTENANCE ON ALL
NEW AND PRE-OWNED
SUBARU'S WITH
PURCHASE!



NEW 2019 SUBARU

OUTBACK

The Subaru for the Northwest, top safety features, lots of clearance and all the power you've come to expect in a Subaru. Come to Capitol Subaru and test drive one today!

888-277-1913

**3235 Cherry Ave NE
Salem, Oregon**

SEE ALL OF OUR
INVENTORY ONLINE!

capitolsubaru.com



Living and Learning

The old adage is 'with age comes wisdom'. Now a few people may have a problem with that generalization, but for the gardener, it is proof! The more we spend time in the garden the more we learn. Not just about growing stuff, but also about ourselves. Time and gardening are great teachers. If you do something long enough then you are bound to learn some lessons. The first lesson for a beginning gardener may be 'green side up' but don't worry, soon with experience, that same person will be sharing their ideas about how to grow the world's best tomato. That is why we love doing the Garden Time show. We constantly help gardeners to learn more and in the process we also learn more. Every year and with every story we seem to glean more knowledge about gardening. It's hard to believe! You would think that with 500 episodes, 21 million YouTube views, 13 seasons and thousands of stories we would have covered enough to say we are proficient in something, but alas, we are in the same boat as everyone else. And... there is the lesson of life; if you are not learning, you are not growing! The best part is that as we learn more about gardening, we do it in the comfort and serenity of our individual gardens.

What could be better? How about another two seasons of Garden Time? We just signed up with our TV sponsors for another seasons of Garden Time, and that is the best news of all!

This month we get a chance to learn more about gardening with some of our featured articles. First, in keeping with the season, Sarah fills us in on that holiday favorite, the poinsettia. She not only gives us a history on this tender perennial (if you live in the tropics), but also gives us care tips and debunks a few myths at the same time. Spoiler alert, they are not as poisonous as we once thought. We also get the lowdown on 'Imperfect Produce' from Judy. This company can provide you with some fresh and fantastic produce if you are willing to accept some cosmetic imperfections! It is amazing how much produce gets tossed because it doesn't 'look' good! We also get a great list of books for winter reading or as gifts for the gardener in your life. Timber Press always releases some great titles for the upcoming cold months and they are especially enticing this year. Nothing is better than a good book in the dead of winter and these will have you longing for summer to return, sooner rather than later. Finally, in preparation for the New Year, Therese fills us in on the annual Audubon Bird Count. The best news is that you don't have to travel far to participate, you could help track our feathered friends by just looking out your back window!

The final thing that most people have learned from our 13 seasons is that, even though we are done for the winter with our show, Garden Time will return in just three months for another season! Three months may be hard for you (it is for us), but keep on checking the Facebook page and the Garden Time website for more great gardening information!

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and holiday season!

Happy Gardening!

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

GardenTimeMagazine • December 2018 • Volume 10, No. 12, Issue #117

Garden Time Magazine is published monthly by Gustin Creative Group, 17554 SW Mardee, Lake Oswego, OR 97035. Jeff Gustin, President. ©2018 Gustin Creative Group, LLC. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is prohibited. Customer Service: If you are experiencing difficulty receiving the e-mail notification for this magazine, please contact us at gustingroup@comcast.net. Subscriptions: For a free subscription to this magazine, please fill out the form available on the Garden Time website, at www.gardentime.tv.

IN THIS ISSUE

ask mortimer....pg. 4

Poinsettia Care

backyard....pg. 6

Good Winter Books

got to have it....pg. 8

New Year Bird Count

adventures....pg. 12

Imperfect Produce

eats....pg. 16

Zebith Thalden

hortie....pg. 20

Gutter Leaf Guards

home....pg. 26

december garden tips....pg. 32

gardening events....pg. 34

Garden Time's Iconic Spokesflower Answers Your Questions!



Ask Mortimer

Mortimer

I am getting into flower bulbs pretty heavy, but I have lots of questions...like how to treat the various bulbs over winter, dig or not dig, etc. Of course I grow daffodils, tulips, some lily (which I'm not very successful with)....but my big hitter favorites are glads. Could you steer me to a good source so I can pick their brain? I have read books, gone on line, etc. but find myself lacking. Only been at this two years but I'm hooked.

Thanks for your assistance. Really enjoy the show.

John from Netarts

Dearest John,

For most bulbs in our area, excluding those areas in the Cascades, you can leave all of your bulbs in the ground. The only caveat is if you have them in a moist or boggy area. Almost all bulbs do not like to be setting in water. If you are concerned about cold and frost, you can always apply an additional layer of mulch to the top of your soil. If you have bulbs in pots or containers, you will want to make sure that they get a little more protection than the bulbs in the ground. Cover and move the pots to a less 'exposed' area in your garden since a very hard frost could wipe out your bulbs and crack your containers at the same time. Another reason to dig your bulbs is if they are showing less blooms from year to year. They may be becoming crowded and that means they should be dug and divided.

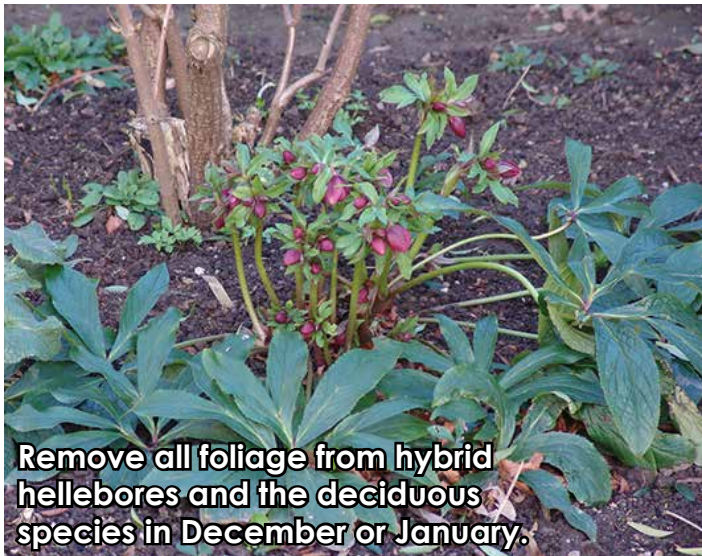
As far as detailed information there are quite a few places to get help. Check out websites for flower clubs and societies. Those groups (for example; the North American Gladiolus Council, <http://www.gladworld.org>) are loaded with specific bulb lovers from around the country. Just type in the bulb name (daffodil, lily, tulip, etc.) and the word 'society' in your search engine and hit enter. You should get a club popping up that you can contact. Other sources of great information are the bulb growers. For example, Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm in Woodburn has a link on their page for 'Growing and Care'. Almost all growers have a similar page. You can also contact a grower by e-mail or phone to get specific questions answered.

Finally, I thought I would include a chart that we include on the show, to show people the planting depths for your most common bulbs. This was found on the Portland Nursery (www.PortlandNursery.com) website. They have a lot of great information on their site under their 'Gardening Solutions' link.

Good luck and may your garden be filled with beautiful blooms,

Mortimer

Mortimer answers selected questions and comments every month in Garden Time Magazine.
To send him your question, email
AskMortimer@GardenTime.tv



Remove all foliage from hybrid hellebores and the deciduous species in December or January.

Darling Donna,

Yes, you can trim back your hellebores foliage right now. The foliage is probably looking pretty ratty and cutting it back will expose your beautiful blooms as they emerge. Hellebores are pretty hardy for our area and really don't need much in the way of fertilizer. If you do want to fertilize you can use a fall and winter fertilizer which has a larger middle number of the three numbers listed. The middle number is 'phosphate' and helps promote better roots. Nothing too strong though! Your local garden center should be able to help you pick out a good fertilizer.

For hellebores in containers, the rules are the same. You can leave them in the containers for quite a long time, since they are relatively slow growers. If you notice that they are not blooming as much or that there are a lot of seedlings starting to crowd the 'mother' plant, then a little thinning or re-potting may be in order. If you are expecting a large or deep freeze in your area, you can pull them under cover if you are concerned. You can repot a hellebore anytime of the year, but the best time is in the early fall. Usually late September or October.

These winter favorites are a welcome addition to the Northwest garden, so enjoy those blooms while you enjoy a nice hot tea or coffee!

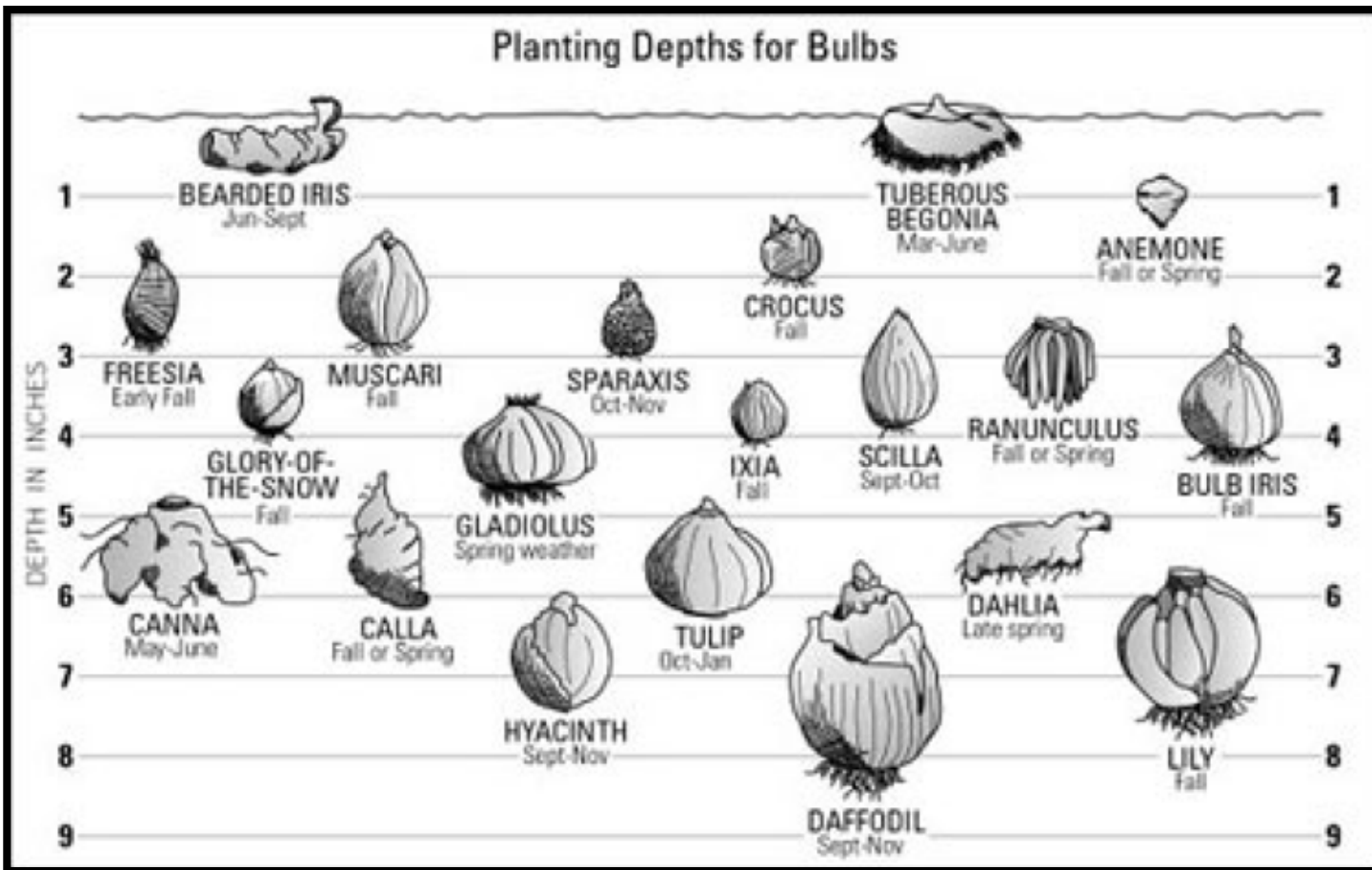
Hey Mortie,

I've been growing Hellebores in containers for a number of years now. They're starting to bud already so I just trim them back. But seeing those fat little buds brought forth some questions--when do I feed the plants, and how long can they stay in their containers before they need to be repotted?

I hope you can get an answer to me before I do (or don't do) something that needs (or doesn't) to be done to them.

Thanks!
Donna

Have a wonderful winter,
Mortimer





By the Chimney, with Care

Some tips to make this symbol of the season last as long as possible.

by Sarah Gustin

If the holiday season has a floral mascot, it's the poinsettia. A staple at nurseries, homes, churches, and stores, the beautiful and misleading "blooms" signal a beginning to seasonal merriment!

The distinctive red "flowers" of a poinsettia are not actually flowers at all! They are leaves, or bracts. The flower of the poinsettia is the yellow middle in the midst of the colorful decorative leaves. Though red and white are the most commonly seen colors, they can also be found in orange, pink, yellow, cream, and dappled versions. Head to your local nursery and treat your eyes to a sea of various poinsettia colors.

This native Mexican shrub has been associated with Christmas since the 16th century. There is a traditional story about a little girl who was too poor to buy an offering for Christmas. So she gathered weeds from the side of the road to bring to the altar. When she presented them, they transformed into poinsettias.

Once you have a poinsettia in your home,

you need to just follow a few rules to keep it looking fresh and vibrant the whole season. Al's Garden and Home, the Northwest poinsettia experts, have these recommendations:

- Avoid exposing your poinsettia to freezing conditions. Do not leave it in the car while you finish shopping. Take it home and place it inside the house as soon as possible after purchasing it.
- Place your poinsettia in a spot with bright natural light, but do not expose it to direct sunlight.
- Do not place your poinsettia in an area where it will be exposed to drafts, heat from appliances, radiators, or ventilation ducts.
- The color of your poinsettia will last longer in temperatures about 65° F during the day and 60° - 65° F at night.
- The soil should be kept moderately moist; check every few days and water when the soil

feels dry to the touch. Before watering, remove the plant from the decorative pot cover or foil wrapping; water to saturate the soil. Allow the pot to drain completely. Do not let the plant sit in standing water.

Some people avoid purchasing poinsettias because of their rumored toxicity. This long-standing legend has long been proven to be untrue. Though the leaves do contain trace amounts of toxic elements, they are not fatal. Not to say that you should go around eating them! Some people with sensitive skin may have a reaction to touching the plant, and it can cause some gastrointestinal discomfort if ingested. If you do decide to show how tough you are at your next holiday party and eat a bunch of poinsettia leaves, just know that you won't die. It would take eating 500 leaves to be fatal to a 50 lb child.

While poinsettias are lovely and sold ready to place anywhere in your home, they can be used to make some unique and elegant seasonal decorations. Take off the cellophane wrapping and drop your pot into a decorative container. Trim some stems and incorporate a statement bloom into a holiday wreath. Consider creating an arrangement with poinsettias and evergreens as an elegant centerpiece. And if you are willing to part with one, they make a thoughtful gift to bring along to holiday parties.

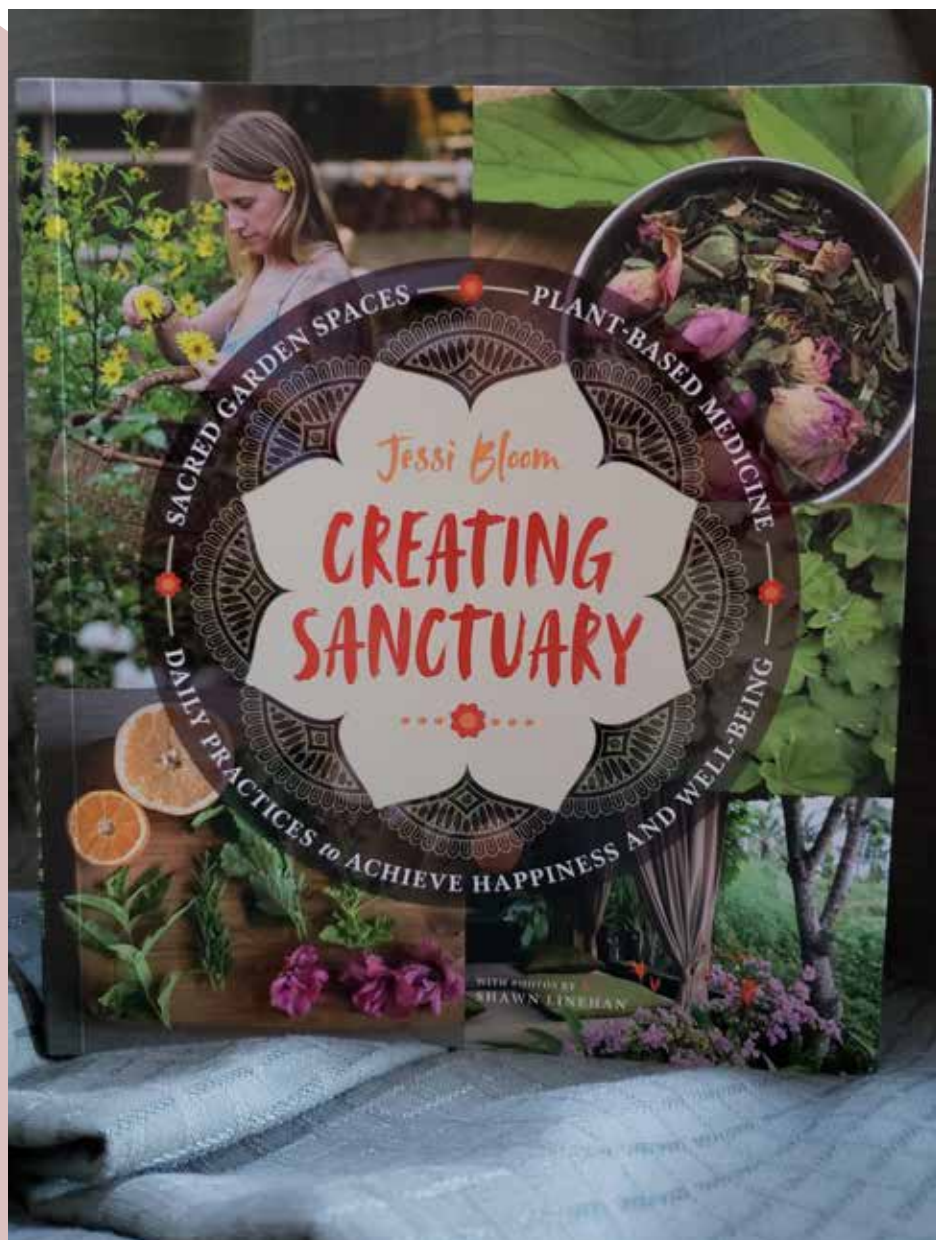
Go out and grab yourself a beautiful seasonal poinsettia, and do it fast! December 12th is National Poinsettia Day!



Tome for the Holidays

Five
garden
books
you'll want
to give or
receive

by
Judy Alleruzzo



*"How did it get so late
so soon?
It's night before
it's afternoon.
December is here
before it's June.
My goodness how
the time has flown.
How did it get so late
so soon?"*

~Dr. Seuss

Dr. Seuss about summed up December in those few words, didn't he? Usually the "Got to Have It" section is about a new plant or garden gadget. Since it is December and our gardens are pretty much put to bed, I thought

garden book suggestions would be appropriate "Got to Have Its" for this month's issue. It's also the gift giving time of year and we all need ideas for people on our Christmas list.

***Creating Sanctuary Sacred
Garden Spaces: Plant-
Based Medicine and
Daily Practices to Achieve
Happiness and Well-Being***

***Jessi Bloom
Timber Press***

This book is a much needed balm especially during stressful times of the holidays or just daily life. The chapters teach us how to make that special space

in our gardens to help us relax and mindful tips to recharge our minds and bodies. There is a very large chapter on "Fifty Sacred Plants for the Sanctuary Garden". These plants are not just easy to grow but are medicinal or have "sacred powers that have been told in myths and stories." Many of the chapters of *Creating Sanctuary* can be read and practiced right indoors and not in a garden. Maybe next spring, you can plan on taking what you learn and create a space outdoors!

Author Jessi Bloom lives near Seattle and "is an award-winning ecological landscape designer, professional horticulturist, and

ISA-certified arborist. She is lead designer and owner of NW Bloom Ecological Services, known as an innovator and leader in permaculture and sustainable landscape design."

* * * *

***Garden Lust: A Botanical
Tour of the World's Best
New Gardens***

***Christopher Woods
Timber Press***

Author Christopher Woods "was director and chief designer of Chanticleer Garden" near Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He

moved on to other leadership roles at several other noteworthy gardens in England and the U.S. In this book he "set out on a global quest in search of inspired new gardens and presents fifty of the best." Woods takes us to gardens on six continents from Switzerland to South Africa, from the U.S to Australia. Personally, I am partial to Asian inspired gardens and my favorite is in Chiang Mai Thailand and surrounds the hotel, 137 Pillars House. The curtain of 1,500 golden pothos is astounding as the photo invites us all to sit beside it and just be. The garden is complimented by the stunning original teak wood home built in 1889. In contrast to this lush foliage garden, the sun baked landscape at The Aloe Farm in Hartbeespoort, South Africa is made up of Andy De Wet's 40 year selection and breeding work of aloes and agapanthus. The 210 acre farm is about 1 hour northwest of Johannesburg and home to his trial gardens and sales yard of plants. Sunbirds which look similar to our hummingbirds dart around sipping on the abundant flowers.

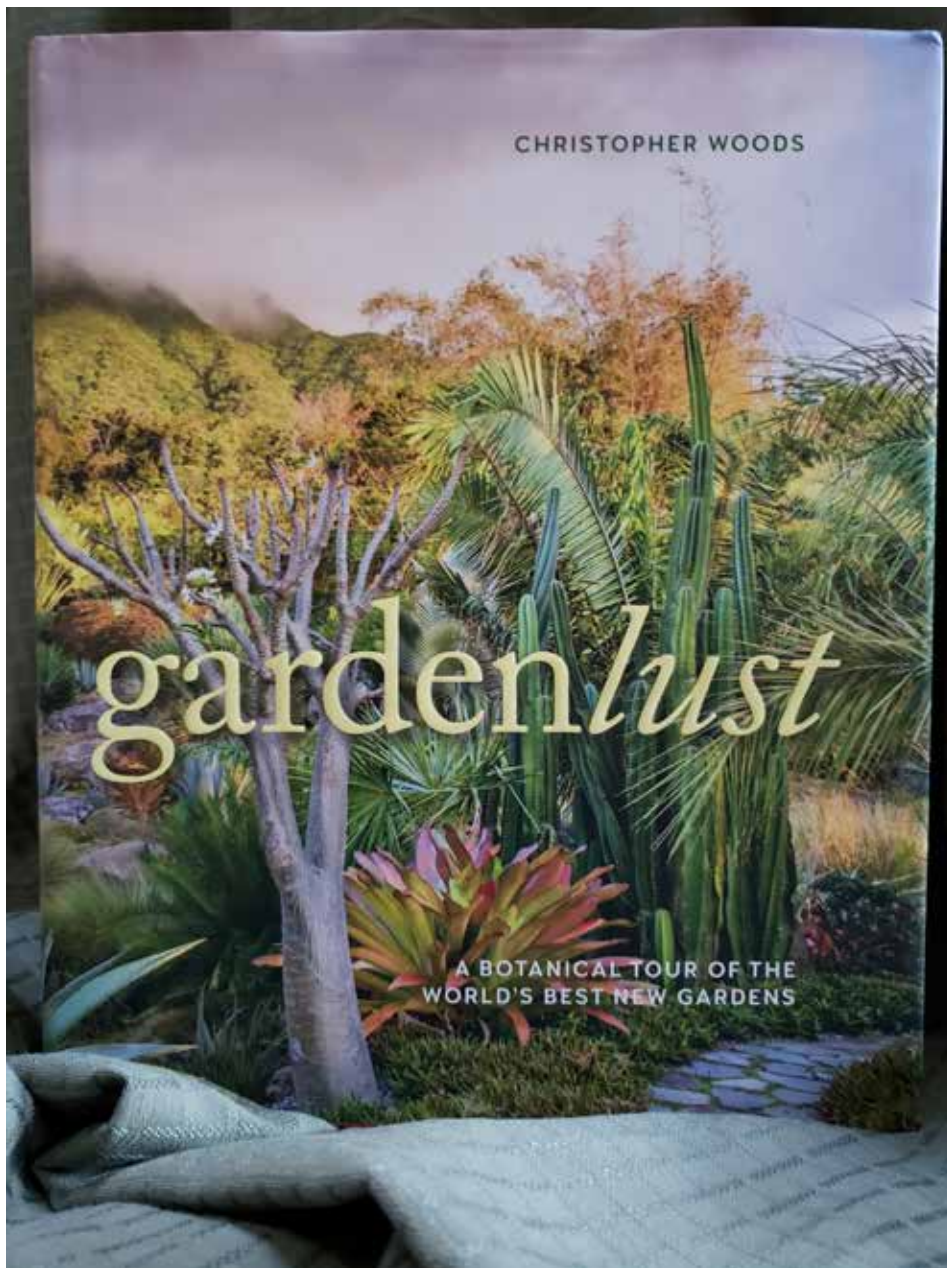
The remarkable photos and Woods vivid narrative of each garden is sure to get you adding more gardens to visit on your bucket list! Maybe Garden Time will tour a few in the future....

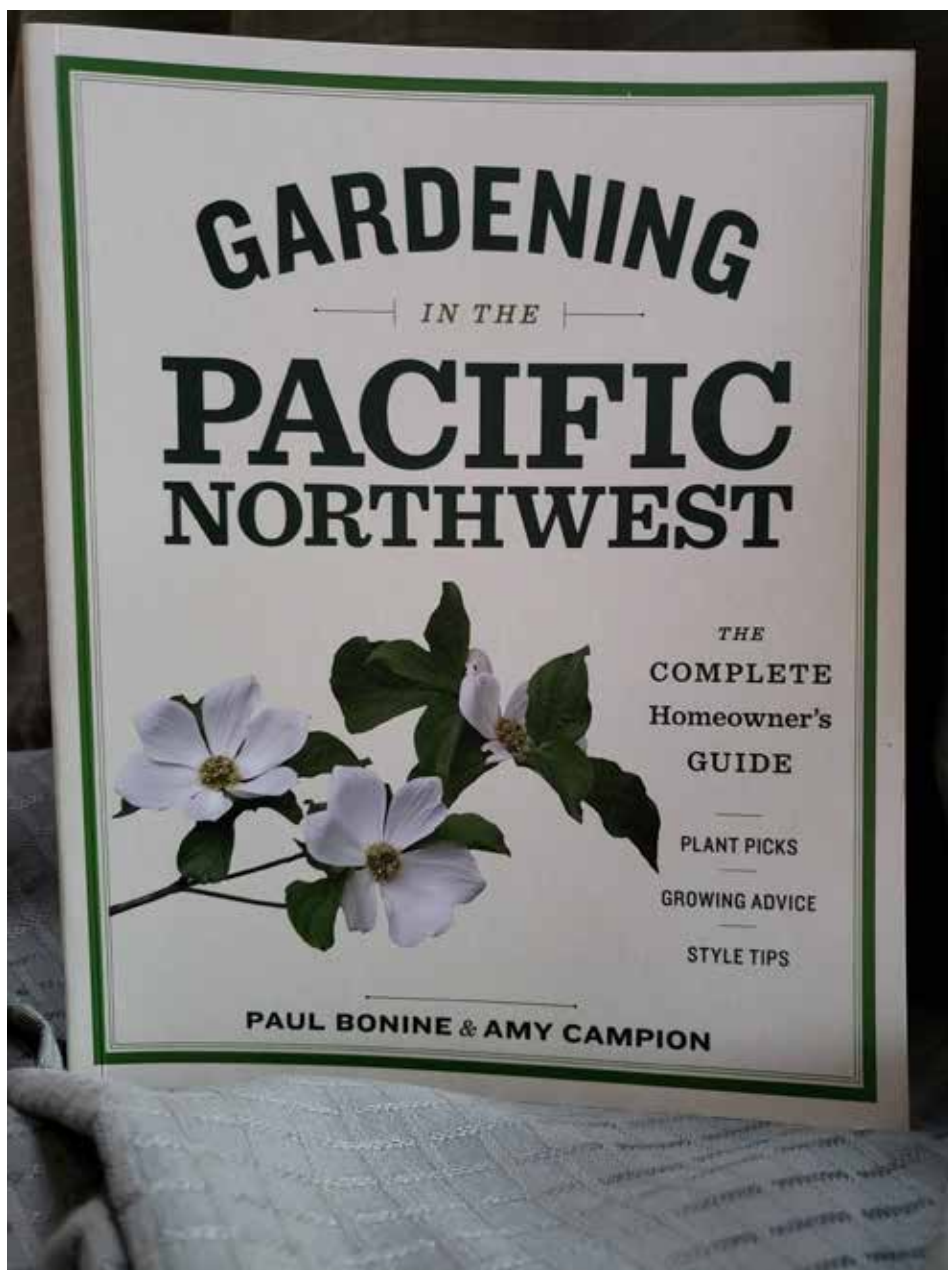
* * * *

***Gardening in the Pacific
Northwest: The Complete
Homeowner's Guide***

***Paul Bonine & Amy Campion
Timber Press***

This book is a collaborative effort between Paul Bonine, Oregon nurseryman and one of the owners of Xera Plants and Amy Campion new to Oregon but savvy in the nursery industry. Paul has written the text for the book and Amy edited plus added in the wonderful photos.





The book begins by outlining all the different areas of the Pacific Northwest, explaining the seasonal climates, hardiness zones, elevations, wind patterns, etc, to help the reader be a successful gardener.

The chapter on "Good Garden Culture" is a great primer for new gardeners and reminders to veteran gardeners. My favorite part of the book is the section highlighting great plants that work in every garden. Paul has written detailed information and Amy has supplied lovely photos capturing flowers, leaves, textures or branching patterns

for each plant. The final chapter includes descriptive text and photos of gardens. Readers get a sense of what is possible to create in their backyards in the Pacific Northwest.

* * * *

***Peony: The Best Varieties
for Your Garden***

**David C. Michener
& Carol A. Adelman
Timber Press**

Carol Adelman from Adelman Peony Gardens is a dear friend of Garden Time. We all were so excited when she told us of her

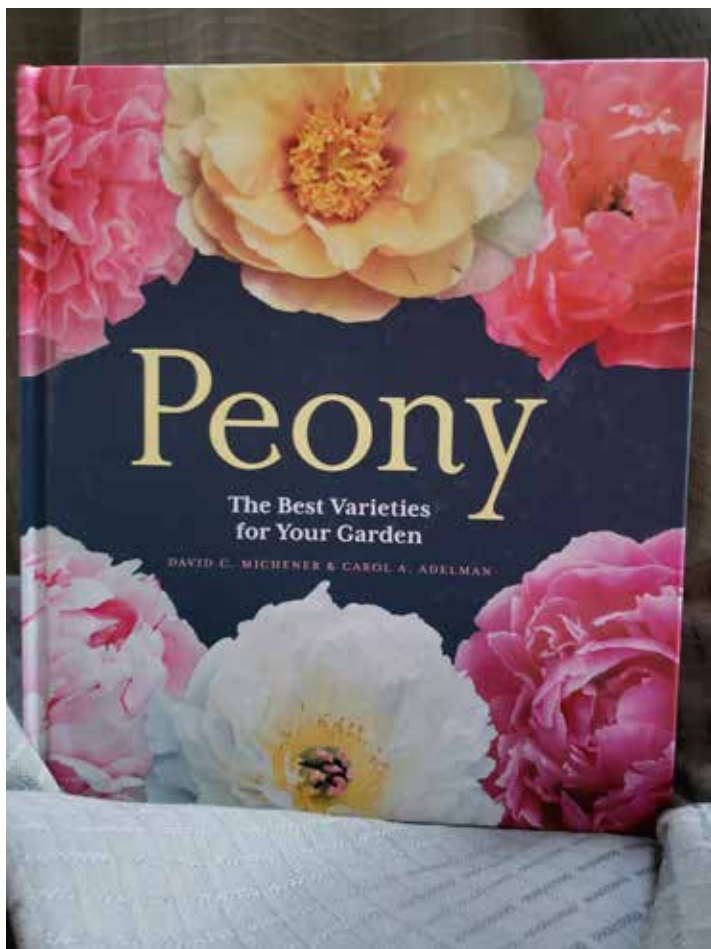
writing endeavor with David C. Michener, the associate curator at the University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum in Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is an amazing grower as Adelman Peony Gardens has won the peony award, 'Best of Show' for nine of the last 15 years. Her wealth of knowledge on peonies is vast and shows through in her collaboration in writing this book. In the introduction, the authors state, "Our goal in this book is to provide the information you need to grow these magnificent peonies with confidence, to create stunning garden scenes, and to enjoy your peonies as cut flowers." There is a section on the history of peonies, care and culture of the plants and as cut flowers. I love even the detail to include exactly what the relationship is between peonies and the ants who also love them! (Spoiler Alert! The ants just love the 'sugary sap' on the buds!) Once again, as I love lists of plants with beautiful photos, is the section showcasing the almost 200 peony varieties. Stunning photos by Carol and a few other photographers add to the descriptive texts with each peony. There are also indexes of sources for peony plants and cut flowers, plus public gardens to visit with peony collections in the U.S, Canada and the United Kingdom. It's a beautiful and informative book to remind us all of a late spring garden while sitting inside on a rainy winter day.

* * * *

***Sempervivums: A Gardener's
Perspective of the Not-So-
Humble Hens-and-Chicks***

**Kevin C. Vaughn
Schiffer Publishing LTD**

Kevin Vaughn is an amazing plant breeder and Garden Time friend. We stop at his home and



trial garden a few times each season to be awed by his breeding work. He usually is working on 4 to 5 to 6 different genus of plants at any one time. His first and longest group to breed new cultivars is Sempervivums, more commonly known as Hens & Chicks.

These beloved perennials of probably every gardener are Kevin's favorite plant to breed. He has been at it since he was nine years old with two cultivars, 'Jungle Shadows' and 'Lipstick' receiving awards when he was only 12 years old. Quite amazing dedication! This book parallels that dedication to detail, telling us all about Semps, describing, with great photos, species and cultivars, (and uses in the garden). The last section of the book highlights other breeders and promoters of Sempervivums in this worldwide 'club'. Kevin also includes sources for these much collected plants in the U.S and Europe.

These five books are only a small collection of plant and gardening books available at your favorite bookstore in your neighborhood or on line.

I'll leave you with another quote that captures the Pacific Northwest in winter, "Rainy days should be spent at home with a cup of tea and a good book."

Garden Time Additional Book Review Segments

**Interview with Carol Adelman
Adelman Peony Gardens**

Episode 471, April 28, 2018

Interview with Paul Bonine and Amy Campion

Episode 469, April 14, 2018

Interview with Tom Fischer, Timber Press

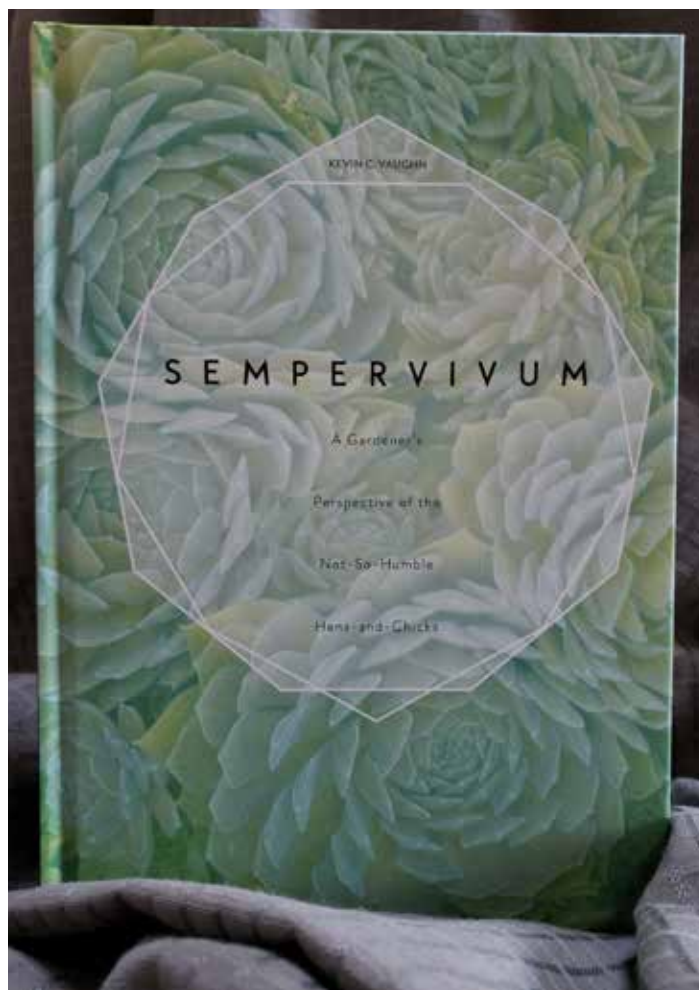
Episode 500, November 17, 2018

Garden Time Magazine Articles

Carol Adelman - May 2015 Issue

Paul Bonine - August 2015 Issue

Kevin Vaughn - March 2017 Issue





Down for the Count

People are flocking to help the Audubon Society document our feathered friends.

by Therese Gustin

Downy Woodpecker

In the summertime, one of the activities my husband Jeff and I enjoy those mornings when we can be home is sitting out on our deck with a hot cup of coffee watching the birds in our backyard. We can spend hours watching the hummingbirds flit from flower to flower gathering nectar or perch on the hummingbird feeder quickly dipping into the sugary solution while scoping the area for predators. We watch the steller's jays thrash around in the bird bath splashing water every which way cleaning up for the day. Sometimes our seed and suet feeders are covered with black cap chickadees all vying for position to nab that tasty worm or sunflower seed. We watch the flickers overtake the suet feeder all the while dropping chunks of suet on the ground for all the ground feeding birds to enjoy. As the temperatures dip, those warm lazy mornings are a thing of the past but we still look forward to catching a glimpse of the birds who visit our backyard feeders even though it's through a picture window.

We take it for granted that the birds will visit our garden throughout the year. After all, we provide food and water all year long to encourage them to stop and spend a little time in our garden. I never really thought about the variety and number of birds that actually pass through my garden at any given time. Well, for over 90 years the Audubon Society of Portland has been documenting the

number and species of birds that are seen on the Saturday closest to New Year's Day. It's called the Christmas Bird Count and it incorporates the data from "community scientists" to get a read on the number and varieties of birds in a 15 mile radius of Portland. This year's Christmas Bird Count takes place on Saturday, January 5, 2019 from 7am to 5pm.

My good friend Karen Harris has been participating in this annual bird count at the Tryon Creek location for over 25 years. She does it because she loves birds but mainly because it's fun! She explained that the Bird Count is a snapshot of the environment. "Birds are literally the canary in the coal mine of our environment. They are vulnerable to the stuff we do to the environment. The Audubon Society compiles information nationally for the health of the environment. Having a 100 year old database lets us notice things like that."

Since 1900 Christmas Bird Counts have been conducted throughout the Western Hemisphere contributing important scientific data about bird population trends. It is the longest running community science project in North America. In Portland, on average 125 species are counted and Karen informed me that on average 70 species are counted in the Lake Oswego area.



Stellar's Jay

If you want to be part of this process, you can participate in the count as a 'field observer' or as a 'feeder watcher'. A field observer meets with a Bird Count leader at a designated location at a specific time. The Portland Bird Count covers a 15 mile diameter centered on the Willamette median on Burnside. There are 5 areas represented in the Portland count, each one managed by a separate leader. Just pick the location closest to you and contact that leader for the specific details of your count. You can spend a few hours or all day with the group. You don't have to be an expert at bird identification. Participating with a group can be helpful if you are not quite an expert. There will be plenty of people there to help with ID. Children as young as 9 or 10 can come too...as long as they can remain calm and keep their voices reasonably quiet. Dress for the weather and bring binoculars for the most accurate viewing.

If you want to participate as a 'feeder watcher', you can do your count in your own backyard. To be a feeder watcher you will need to download and record your findings on the Feeder Watch form. (https://audubonportland.org/files/cbc/cbc-feeder-2018/at_download/file) Feeder watchers are a vital part of the Christmas Bird Count as they help give a more accurate count of the birds present in the count circle. Feeder watchers must reside within the Portland Christmas Bird Count circle and the count must be done only on Saturday, January 5, 2019. It's vital to check the map to see if you reside within the count



Anna's Hummingbird

PHOTO CREDIT: P E HART VIA FLICKR.COM

Where Will a Capitol Subaru Take You?



Local Events December 2018

Christmas in the Garden

Thru December 31, 2018 (open most dates)
Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

An outdoor event featuring ice skating, snowless tubing, an artisan vendor market, photos with Santa, fire pits, live music and more. Slide down 150 feet on the snowless tubing track, listen to festive music & carolers, enjoy the tastes of holiday foods

• www.oregongarden.org

Zoolights

Thru January 5, 2019 • 5:00pm-9:00pm
The Oregon Zoo, Portland, OR

See a dazzling display of more than million and a half lights, and experience your zoo in a whole new light. Ride the popular lighted train and enjoy dinner from a variety of food carts.

• www.oregonzoo.org

Create Your Own Holiday Centerpiece

Saturday, December 15, 2018 • 11:00am-1:00pm

Sunday, December 16, 2018 • 1:00pm-3:00pm

Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Learn to make a beautiful holiday centerpiece using cut greens, berries and other accessories and finish it all off with a candle. Class is held in a lightly heated outdoor house, so dress in warm layers and bring gloves. We will provide all the materials, tools and hot cider. Cost: \$35.00.

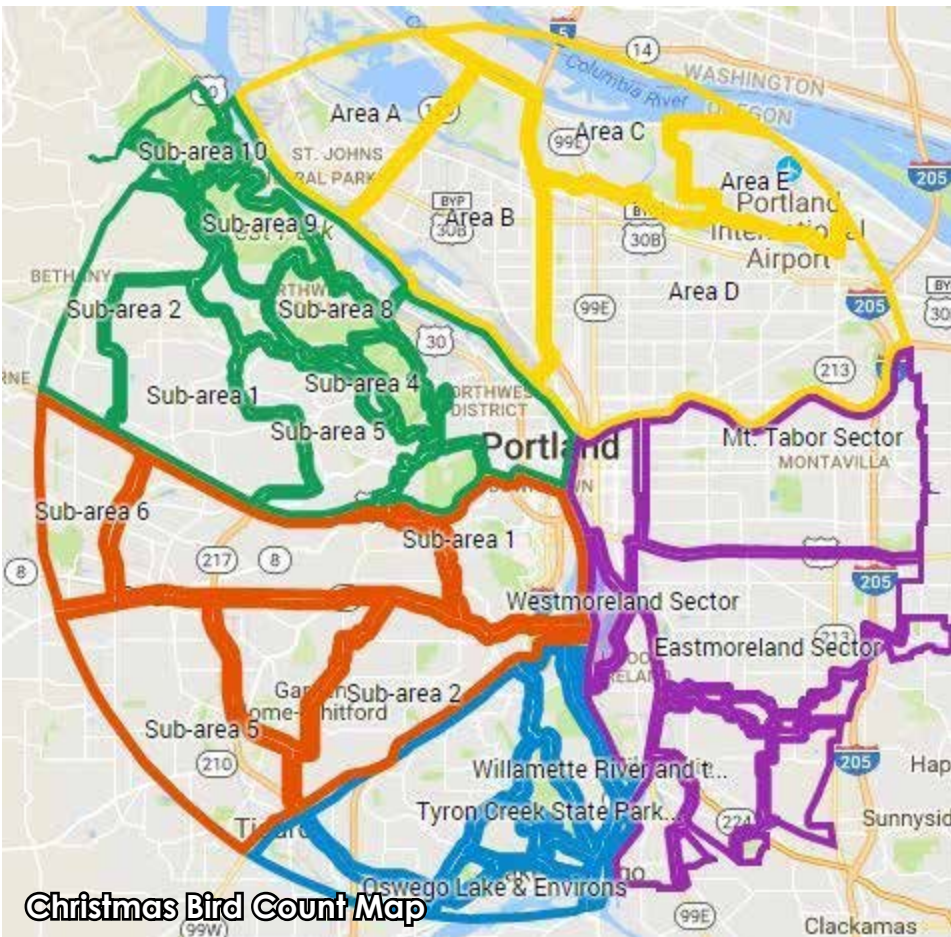
• www.garlandnursery.com



capitolsubaru.com



Black Capped Chickadee



Christmas Bird Count Map

boundaries. There are 2 schools of thought when counting birds at home.

1. Watch your feeder for a set amount of time; 30 to 60 minutes and record what comes in at that time. You can give your full attention to the birds that land in your yard, at your feeders and in the air space.
2. Check 4 to 6 times throughout the day for about a 5 to 10 minute period. This method allows you to focus on your feeder at spurts throughout the day.

You may even see a species that no one else has seen that day!

Candace Larson from the Audubon Society of Portland suggests this strategy when counting birds in your backyard:

"I suggest you keep track of the maximum number of a species found at the feeders at one

particular time. This involves not only species and number, but in some cases, gender and individual differences. What I'm saying here is to differentiate individuals and sexes as much as possible to get the most accurate count. When looking at House Finches, don't just count 25 House Finches; rather, count 16 Red (i.e., adult males) and 9 Brown (not adult males). That way, if you count again later and have 12 Red and 20 Brown, you'll be able to say you had 36 House Finches because the greatest count of Reds you had was 16 and the greatest count of Browns you had was 20: $16 + 20 = 36$. This doesn't work for all birds: Scrub-Jays pretty much all look alike, but if one Scrub-Jay was flying

away to the right while another was coming in from the left, you know you had 2. This census method, differentiating individuals as well as numbers and species, will give you the most accurate method of counting without catching the birds. The table provided for counting separates those birds that have different male and female plumages. This is just to make it easier for you—I don't need separate counts by gender."

Results of your count should be sent to Candace as soon after January 5TH as possible.

They can be sent to:
Candace Larson
Audubon Society of Portland
5151 NW Cornell Road
Portland, OR 97210

Or emailed to:
clarson@audubonportland.org

For more information about the Christmas Bird Count:

<https://audubonportland.org/local-birding/cbc>
or contact: 971-222-6121

Joe Liebezeit
jliebezeit@audubonportland.org

Candace Larson
clarson@audubonportland.org

If you would like to be part of this valuable and fun project, find a Bird Count area near you and contact the leader. You'll be contributing vital information about the many beautiful bird species that we enjoy in the Portland area.

Excellent Bird Identification Sources

Peterson Bird Books
Sibley Bird Books
Merlin Birding App (for your phone)



Northern Pygmy Owl

PHOTO CREDIT: SCOTT CARPENTER



Northern Flicker

PHOTO CREDIT: PTGBIRDLOVER VIA FLICKR.COM



Christmas bird counters plan their route through Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge

PHOTO CREDIT: TINSLEY HUNSDORFER

Imperfect Solution

One in six people in America faces hunger, yet we throw out 40% of our food. Imperfect Produce is working to change those numbers.

by Judy Alleruzzo

PHOTO CREDIT: IMPERFECT PRODUCE



Every spring, I love to plant my vegetable garden.

It's a small plot, but jam-packed with tomato plants. When they are ripe, I don't care that they have a mark on them or strange dimples, just that they are delicious! That's the basic concept of the company, Imperfect Produce. They save from farm waste, vegetables and fruit with minor blemishes or weird shapes that taste just as wonderful as perfect produce. This slightly blemished produce is gathered sorted and delivered to their subscribers to enjoy.

A few years ago, Ben Simon was a college student at the University of Maryland. He realized way too much food

waste was being generated at the campus cafeteria. He founded Food Recovery Network, FRN, "a nonprofit dedicated to preventing waste on college campuses." He met up with Ben Chesler and they expanded the FRN to almost 200 colleges and universities across the US. Researching that in the US, we throw out about 40% of our food and about 20% of farm produce is never shipped because of imperfections, Simon and Chesler decided they could do even more about food waste. This new network became Imperfect Produce in August 2015. Aleks Strub, a marketing wiz, joined Simon and Chesler in 2016. Imperfect Produce works on a simple concept that works for everyone and our

planet. Delicious and nutritious but blemished or over produced fruit and vegetables are picked up from the farmers and sold to subscribers at a reduced cost. Plus, the box of produce is delivered to your front door. On the west coast, their database of over 150 farmers keep them informed about harvests of ugly fruit or crops with a surplus. These situations usually ended with the produce being tilled back into the fields or just dumped into a landfill. Now, this bounty gets to the consumer market, ensures farmers are paid for more of their crop, employs Imperfect Produce staff and helps families save up to 30% of their food budget.

Americans have been fortunate



to have access to fresh produce and that has come to mean absolutely perfect in size, color shape, etc. There are several reasons why produce is considered "Imperfect" and therefore rejected at grocery stores.

- 1 - Wide variation in the fruit or vegetable sizes
- 2 - Odd shaped produce
- 3 - Blemishes on produce skin or peels
- 4 - Lack of interest in the consumer marketplace
- 5 - Discoloration of the skin or peels
- 6 - Over production at the farm

How the Imperfect Produce system works

The rejected produce, because of the reasons above, is transported to the Imperfect Produce warehouses. While this is happening, the assortment of produce is being listed on the website for subscribers to make the selection for their weekly delivery. Subscribers select one of the four sizes of boxes; small, medium, large or extra large to fit their household's meal plans. They then choose the type of produce, organic, mixed fruit and vegetables, all vegetables or an all fruit assortment.

As a subscriber, not only do you pick the size box and overall assortment but you can customize the assortment. If you love kale you can select extra and not get the carrots. You can also choose to have your selection delivered every week or every other week, right to your doorstep. It's an amazing and organized setup!

Garden Time friend, Jan McNeilan is an Imperfect Produce subscriber so I asked her about her

experiences with the deliveries. I knew she would be open and honest in her appraisal of the company.

Here is our conversation.

Judy- Why did you choose to buy from Imperfect Produce?

Jan- "I heard good things about them and that they were a startup company that I wanted to support."

Judy - Do you get a delivery every week?

Jan- "We get a conventional medium box delivery every other week. I find that when the box comes it feels like Christmas! Even though I have chosen conventional and not organic, organic choices are available when I customize our box.

I love Brussels sprouts, but don't buy them often. Because they are easy to choose, I have had a lot of lovely curried roasted Brussels sprouts this year."

Judy- In customizing the assortment, do you try something you may not have bought at a grocery store or Farmers' Market?



Sorting Warehouse



Jan- "Can't think of anything that I couldn't get somewhere else, but the assortment of choices is very large. It encourages me to incorporate more fruit and veggies in our diet."

Judy- Do you think the fruit and veg are fresh and good quality even tho they may look odd or misshapen?

Jan- "Sometimes I get one baking potato or a sweet potato that is huge and just right for a dinner! We have never received anything that was not usable."

A small or large lemon, onion, potato or orange is just as usable as one in most grocery stores."

Judy- Do you think it's a good value?

Jan- "Yes, I really think that you save about 40%. When you are customizing your box you can see the price of each item and before you save, you will see the cost of the box you have chosen. If a person wanted to do a comparison, they could write down

the prices on the list and compare them to other places. The value is also having it delivered. Our box is anywhere from \$14 - \$18 depending on what I choose."

Judy- Any other comments?

Jan- "I am going to keep eating Brussels Sprouts!"

Jan is sold on Imperfect Produce and I can't wait to try Curried Brussels Sprouts. On the Imperfect Produce website, they provide recipe ideas, upcoming produce availability and really cute photos of vegetables with "Googly Eyes".

We all love fresh fruit and veggies from our gardens but that's just seasonal availability as are Farmers' Markets. Imperfect Produce gathers fresh produce from the whole west coast and deliveries to our doorstep. This concept is fantastic as it enables farmers to sell more of the fruit and vegetables they produce, give a consumers a price break, plus food waste is greatly reduced. It's a win win for all.

Curry-Roasted Brussels Sprouts / Jan McNeilan

Ingredients

- 1½ pounds Brussels sprouts (cut in half through the stem)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- salt
- ground black pepper
- 1½ teaspoons yellow curry powder
- ¼ cup dried cranberries

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 400°F

In a large bowl, add the Brussels sprouts. Toss with vegetable oil. Season with salt and pepper. Combine well. Transfer to a baking sheet and arrange them cut-side down. Cook in the oven for 25 minutes.

Remove the Brussels sprouts from oven and transfer back to the large bowl. Sprinkle with curry powder and toss with a spoon. Dump the Brussels sprouts back to the baking sheet. Cook in the oven for another 5 – 7 minutes, until they are tender and browned.

Transfer the Brussels sprouts to a large serving bowl. Sprinkle with dried cranberries. Serve hot or at room temperature.

Notes

For crisper Brussels sprouts, cut them into quarters. They may not stay intact as well and

won't look as nice, but they sure are crisper.

Different curry powder tastes differently. Some are more spicy and some are mild.

You can substitute the dried cranberries for raisins or any other dried berries.



PHOTO CREDIT: IMPERFECT PRODUCE

Watch the Imperfect Produce Interview

Garden Time Episode 453 • September 23, 2017

www.imperfectproduce.com

How it Works

You choose which “ugly” fruits and veggies you’d like and we deliver them to your door—straight from farmers!



We source ugly produce directly from farms.



You customize your box each week to get exactly what you want.



We deliver your custom box to your house.



Enjoy your healthy, delicious, and affordable produce!

PHOTO CREDIT: IMPERFECT PRODUCE



Insect Aside

**Artist Zebith Thalden
uses paper, metal,
feathers, paint and
other objects to
create amazing
life-like creatures.**

by William McClenathan





What is in a piece of art work? I know from being in the gardens and home of Monet, what an artist's eye can do for flowers. The beauty and intricacies of artists' skills and interpretation of something can reveal even more than just seeing blooms first hand.

What I never considered was the multitude of other things which thrive in Nature. Like the creatures from the insect kingdom. I have never really considered insects to be things of beauty. There were

always exceptions...the colors in a butterfly's wings. The brilliance of some families of cocoons. Certain beetles were always impressive... but overall, not really 'beautiful' to me.

But thanks to this month's Hortie, Zebith Thalden, I can now come to appreciate the subtle and exquisitely beautiful dimensions and intricacies of this part of Nature.

A while back, we interviewed Zebith on Garden Time. What I did

not gather from this interview on the show with her was her intense amount of education. Here is a list of it for your edification.

-Goddard College (Interdisciplinary MFA (Painting & Entomology)

Garden Time, June 2015

"Bug Artist"

<https://youtu.be/BP7Vc1AJ39Q>



-Rhode Island School of Design (BFA- Furniture Design (maybe more fitting to just say Design?))

-Cleveland Institute of Art (An excellent foundation in drawing, design, painting and integrity of construction. At that time, Zebith had an Industrial Design major with a minor in Graphic Design as well as Ceramics)

No wonder her artwork with insects was breathtaking. When I contacted her about this article, she suggested I go to her website for more information. <https://intersectus.net>

So of course I did that straight away. I found myself spending

several hours looking at her different drawings and artwork in many mediums with which she created it.

I was also amazed to read the stories on her website and delighted to see how many times her artwork was hung in places all over America.

From her website I gathered this proof of how many people she has been able to share her work with...

"The artwork of Stacy Zebith Thalden has been featured in solo and group exhibitions in galleries and cultural centers throughout the United States and abroad, including the North Carolina Museum of

Natural Sciences in Raleigh; the Artery Fine Arts Gallery in Chicago; the Julian Scott Memorial Gallery of Johnson State College of Vermont; the Annmarie Sculpture Garden in Dowell, Maryland; the Sitka Center for Art & Ecology in Lincoln City, Oregon; and the Guardino Gallery in Portland, Oregon."

On her website I also found and read an article she wrote for the Vermont Entomological Society. What was not in that article was that she is now using her experience and knowledge in the fields of furniture building, industrial design, ceramics and graphic design simultaneously, particularly for her 'sculpture paintings'.

She asked me if I would like to include the show which just recently was completed in a Washington DC exhibit.

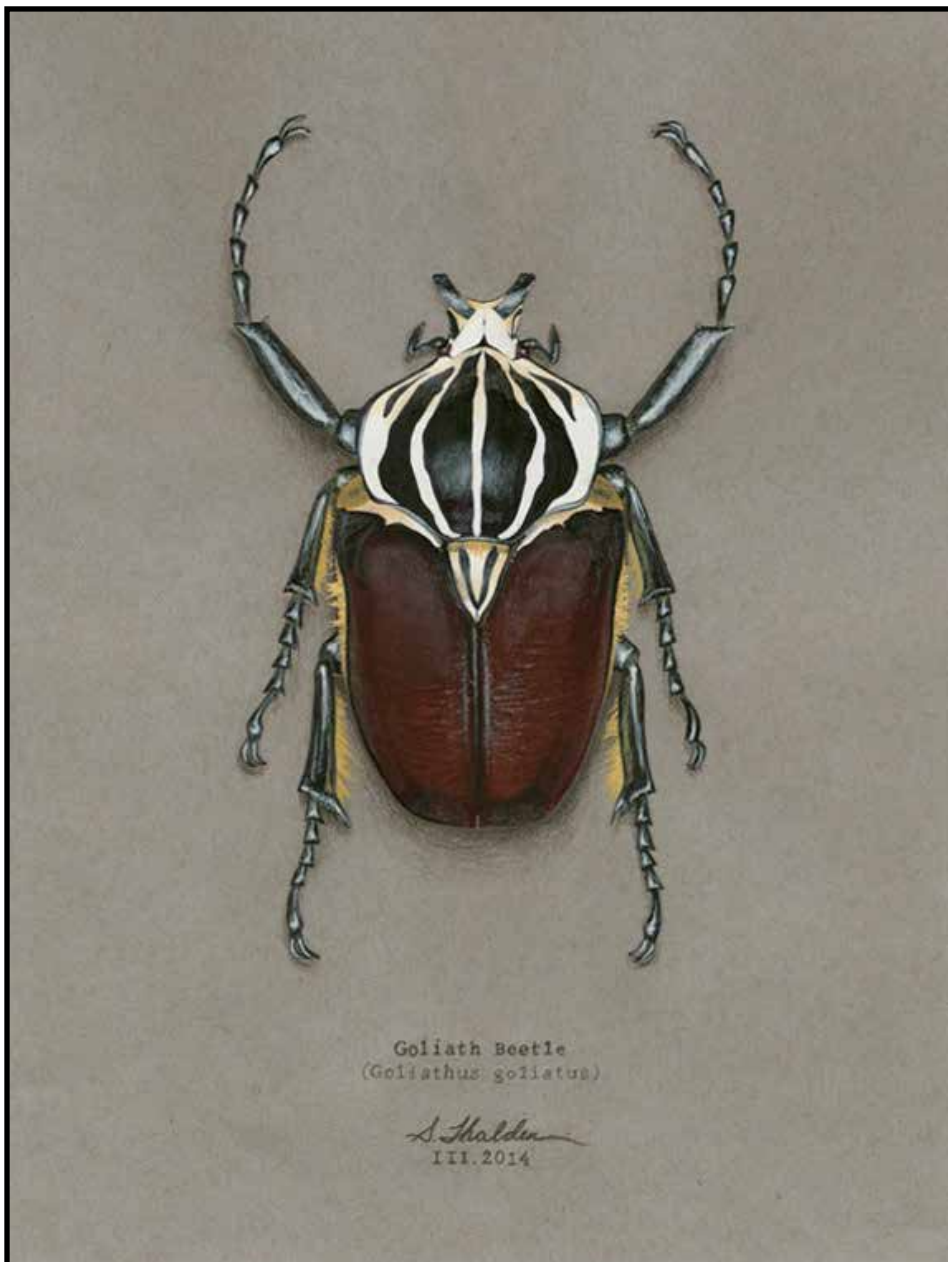
I responded with a resounding "...YES!"

I mean I have never even been to Washington DC, much less been asked to present anything I created there.

You might think with all the work and creativity she does, there would not be time to write a Blog. Well, you would be wrong. <https://intersectus.net/blog/>. There is such a wealth of more intimate information about her 'artwork mission', the multimedia processes and materials she creates with, and its relationship to science.

You can also find information in the Blogs about her trips and events, like the one which just ended to Washington DC.

Zebith also is in the process of finishing up her book. The current plan is for it to be published sometime in 2019 or even 2020. She was kind enough to send me one of the images in the book...it is this Stag Beetle, which is included in the chapter on easy ways to create complex shadows and textures to make incredible 3D look-



ing drawings! I am very excited and looking forward to this book's publication.

She tells me she is working with Timber Press as the publisher. That makes me even happier as you readers and viewers of the show know how much Garden Time adores our local Portland publisher which brings us so many amazing books on Nature, of which many are local writers.

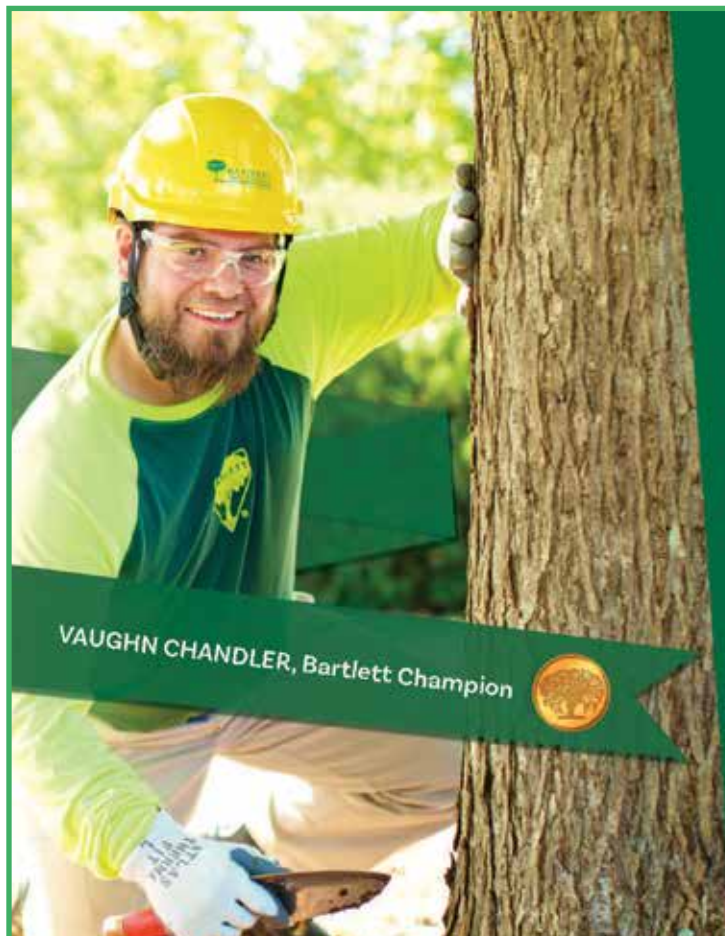
I always try to open the minds of those I interview to peer into their future plans.

Zebith tells me that she is looking forward to leading Eco-tours and teaching classes at the Audubon Society of Portland. She is also

Zebith Thalden

<https://intersectus.net/>

Email:
intersectusdesign@gmail.com



Me? Obsessed with trees?
Yes. Yes, I am.

Vaughn Chandler champions the trees, landscapes and property investments of the customers in his care. And he's one of the many reasons we've become the premier scientific tree and shrub care company in the world.

Contact us today at 503-722-7267 | bartlett.com

BARTLETT
TREE EXPERTS
SCIENTIFIC TREE CARE SINCE 1967

EVERY TREE NEEDS A CHAMPION.

looking forward to teaching workshops for the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology out in Otis, Oregon.

And of course, she is very much looking forward to finishing up her book. She is currently editing what parts are completed, and has only a few more chapters to write. Once the manuscript is complete, it will be another year or so before it is published.

That delay came from an injury she had which has postponed the deadline.

She is also going to continue creating artwork for Natural History Museums, art museums, exhibitions and private clients. In addition, she will also be seeking out art residencies and speaking engagements.

But I still had questions on what compelled her passion for insects which made this field of art and science her career choice. I will just quote her response, as she words it much better than I could.

"I have always found the idea of having an exoskeleton, turning pollen into honey, living in colonies, transforming from a caterpillar into a creature with wings, and the myriad of other incredible insect abilities... mind-expanding from this human point of view!

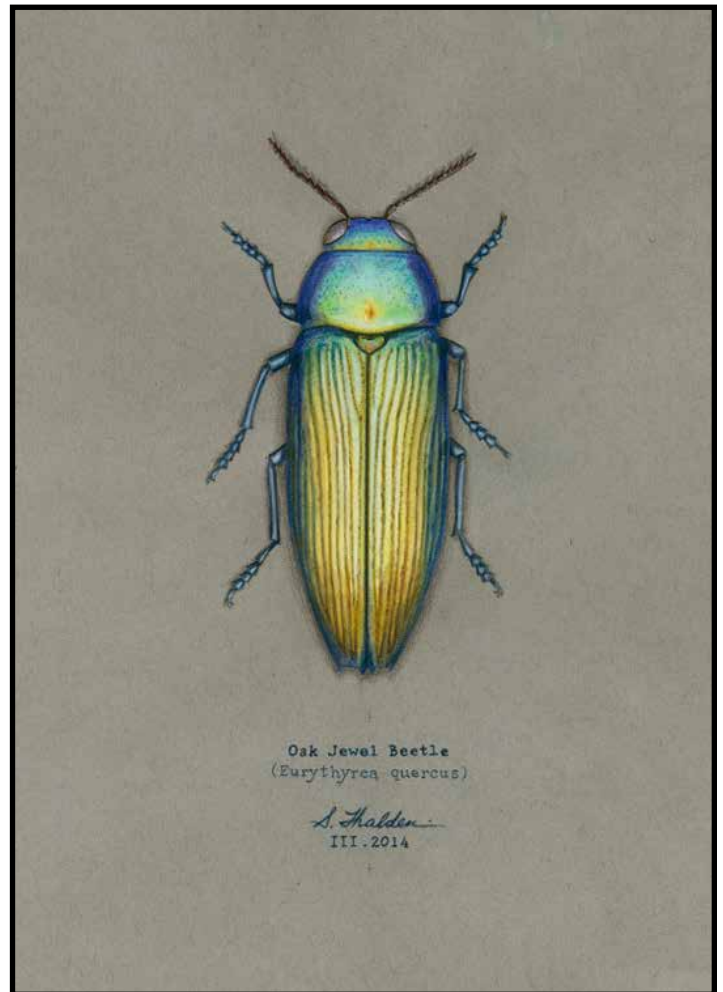
In 2006, a friend handed me a book called, 'An Inor-

dinate Fondness for Beetles' by Arthur Evans. I was enraptured by colors, patterns and textures found in the specimens pictured. I sketched and painted many of the insects as a means to understanding these creatures more. The sketches and paintings that were inspired by this book led me to apply to grad school with a focus on Art and Entomology".

I want to close this article with this response from Zebith to me because it reveals even more about what defines her passion for this amazing path she has chosen for her life. A path which can enhance all of us who pay attention.

"I am in awe of the numerous species on our planet: living, extinct, undiscovered, and those yet to evolve. The more I research and observe, the more I am astounded and inspired by the visual harmony found in nature. This inspiration underlines the creation of each piece I make and magnifies the incredible world of insects. I use a variety of materials to create creatures that are realistic and life-like, including paper, metal, feathers, acrylic paint, upholstery thread and found objects."

Her combination of art and science has been the stalwart of her career, perhaps even her life. One I suspect will continue for many years to come.





Available Now! **Garden Time Flowers**

In celebration of Garden Time, we are proud to tell you about three flowers that have been named in our honor. The *Garden Time Dahlia* comes from Swan Island Dahlias, the *Garden Time Rose* was introduced by Heirloom Roses and the *Garden Time Iris* is from Schreiner's Iris Gardens. Check them out and put a little *Garden Time* in your yard!



Garden Time Dahlia



Garden Time Rose



Garden Time Iris

ORDER TODAY!

More information at The Garden Time Store

www.gardentime.tv/store



Garden Time

Mind in the Gutter

If you have a house and trees, fall is the most dreaded time of the year. Gutter guards could help you cut down on your chores.

by Ron Dunevant

Leaves in the fall. They can be an inspiring sight. With their gorgeous hues filling the skyline, blazing colors of yellow, orange and red. Many people wait all year for this annual show.

But if you're a home owner, have trees in your yard, and have gutters, then they are much more likely to be the bane of your existence. As soon as the fall rains begin, those wet soppy leaves start jumping off the trees, landing on our roofs and heading right for our gutters. It takes only a few weeks before the troughs at the end of our eaves are overflowing with packed leaves, wet debris and just plain dirt. It's a never ending cycle when you live in the Northwest. And the worst part? We often don't realize our gutters are clogged until they overflow during a heavy downpour, when there is no choice but to go out in the rain, climb up a ladder and clear the logjam. It's not a pretty picture.

Gutters on houses are so ubiquitous in the Northwest that we tend to forget their purpose and their value. When a house is constructed, dirt is cleared for a basement or foundation. Once filled back in, it is much more porous than the undisturbed dirt, allowing it to collect water more easily. Water next to the foundation causes settling, deterioration and leakage. Gutters divert the torrents of water that land on your roof away from the house and the foundation. So, keeping them functioning properly is a necessary step toward insuring the long-term viability of your house.

Luckily, if you have gutters and leaves, you also have options. There are many products that pledge to reduce or eliminate the need to clean your gutters. But how good – and how expensive – are they?

A gutter with no leaf guard will quickly fill up with anything that lands on the roof.

If you're even moderately handy, adding your own gutter guards can be a simple D-I-Y project. Many of these products are available at your neighborhood hardware store, big-box store or online, and they can be installed in about a day on most houses, if your gutters are clean to start with. Remember that any chore done while standing on a ladder can be dangerous. If you have a tall house, steep roof or intricate architecture, you may prefer to hire a professional to complete the task for you.

The prices below are for products that you install yourself. Installed by someone else, some of these options could run up to \$25 a linear foot, so plan your budget and price out your options before you commit to anything.

In general, most gutter guards fall into three categories: screens, which cover the top of the gutter with a porous material; fillers, which are placed in the gutter, itself; and covers, which divert the water to the edge of the gutter and curve inward. We'll cover all three, present some of the options, and give you a quick summary of the pros and cons of each type.

Gutter Screens

These guards work by covering the top of the gutter and screening out debris while allowing water to run into the gutter. There are several types:

Flat Gutter Guards: These come in a variety of designs, but they generally work the same way. A flat piece of plastic or metal contains mesh, a screen or some other type of hole. The guard is slid under the shingles and then attached to the lip of the gutter. Often, they are attached with a screw but some will clip to the lip. Depending on the size of the holes, they will allow more or less water to enter the gutter and, proportionately, a certain amount of debris, dirt, seeds and the stone granules from asphalt shingles, as



Flat plastic gutter guards will keep leaves and large debris out of your gutter, but over time, they will make the face of the gutters dirty.

PHOTO CREDIT: RON DUNEVANT

well.

Some mesh guards, usually the ones made of metal, are fine enough as to prevent the smallest seeds or pine needles from entering, while still allowing water to flow freely. Their short length (about 4 feet per piece) and slim design makes them easy to install and fairly inexpensive. They keep large leaves out, fit most gutters and match the angle of your roof, so they are nearly invisible from the ground.

Approximate cost per foot: \$1-\$3. Pros: Inexpensive, keeps out leaves and large debris; can be removed to clean the gutters. Cons: Wet leaves tend to collect on top of the guard, causing roof water to run over the top of the gutter. This will also cause the face of your gutters to get dirty. Regular removal of any debris is essential to keep the screens working properly.

Roll Gutter Screens: If you're looking for a really inexpensive solution, something to just keep some of the leaves out of your gutter, you may choose this option. The plastic mesh comes in a 20 foot roll and flexes to create a curved dome over your gutter. This design will keep most leaves

and larger debris from going into the gutter, but it does nothing to stop small debris and dirt from landing there. While not as effective as the flat gutter guards, it is better than leaving your gutters uncovered. However, because the screen is "flexed" over the gutter, it creates a bulge that is higher than the slope of the roof. That will cause leaves, especially when it is wet, to get caught on the screen. Over a period of time, this "dam" may prevent water from



PHOTO CREDIT: LOWES.COM

A 20-foot roll of plastic mesh gutter guard.



Foam gutter guards fill the gutter and prevent debris from getting into the gutter.

adequately running off the roof, or, in heavy downpours, it may cause water to run over the edge of the gutter.

Approximate cost per foot: Less than 25 cents. Pros: Least expensive option, keeps leaves and large debris out of gutters. Cons: Curved design encourages leaves to collect above the gutter line, preventing water from reaching the gutter. Still allows smaller debris to reach the gutter. Length of roll will require moving the ladder several times to install.

Gutter Fillers

Another form of gutter guard is the type that sits inside the gutter itself and there are a few different options.

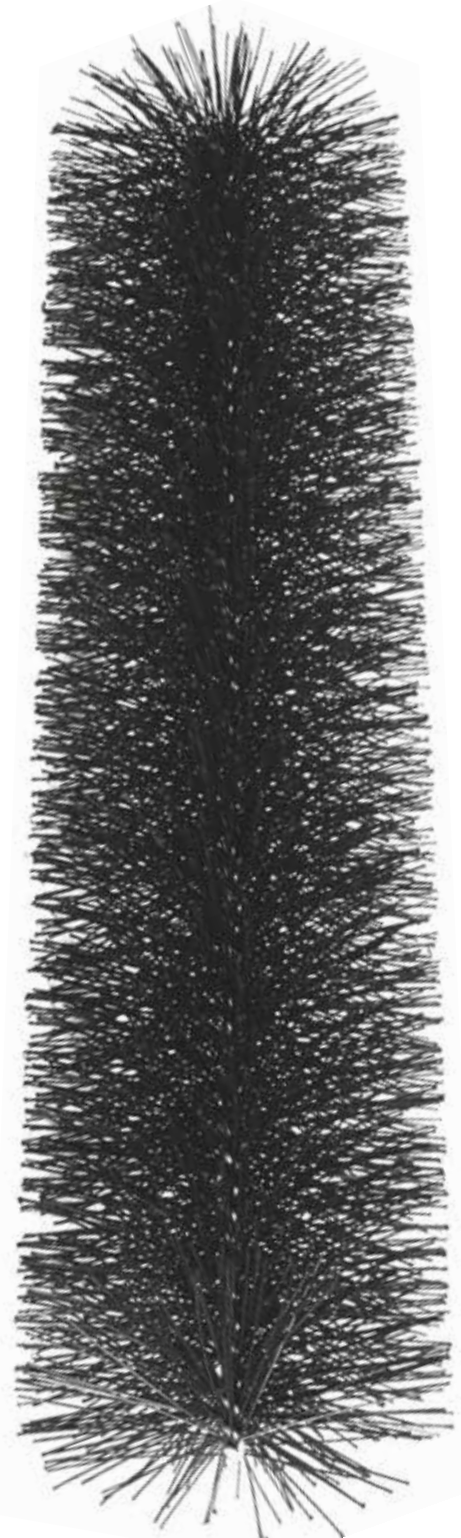
Foam Gutter Guards: This option is popular and is pretty much what you would expect from its name. A triangular piece of dense foam rubber is placed inside the gutter, which allows rain to pass

through the foam, but prevents leaves and small debris from collecting on the floor of the gutter. It's easy to install, requiring no screws, the flexible material allows them to fit most gutters, and the pieces are pre-cut to about four feet in length, so they are easy to handle from a ladder. They will do an adequate job of keeping your gutters clear, but the flat top design allows debris to collect on top, eventually preventing water from going into the gutter. You'll need to regularly remove leaves and dirt from the top in order to keep water from backing up or spilling over the gutter.

Approximate cost per foot: \$1-2. Pros: Keeps more debris out of gutter than large-hole screens. Cons: flat top design allows debris to collect on top. Dirt and sludge buildup in the foam may be difficult to clean.

Gutter Brush: This product looks like a large pipe cleaner, with long, stiff "whiskers" that radiate

from the center core. The pieces lay in the gutter and are designed to prevent leaves, pine needles and other debris from clogging the gutter. They will also keep mice and squirrels from nesting in your gutter. They're easy to install but the "whiskers" may be visible above the gutter top. The design of this guard, while effective,



Gutter brush



A cylindrical gutter guard will keep out large leaves but allow seeds, needles, dirt and granules to fill the gutter.

tive on dry debris, may allow wet or heavy leaves to settle into the gutter, although generally not to the bottom. Because they do not bridge the top of your gutter, you may need to remove trapped debris more often.

Approximate cost per foot: \$3. Pros: Inexpensive and easy to install; deters rodents. Cons: May trap debris and can be visible from the ground.


Cylindrical Plastic: These plastic

tubes sit in the gutter and work much like the “whiskers” of the gutter brush. Their caged design is supposed to keep leaves out, therefore protecting the majority of your gutter from leaves. Its large mesh, however, is big enough to allow fair-sized debris inside the cage as well as underneath the cylinder. If you have trees with small leaves or an abundance of seeds, this type of guard may be less effective and need more frequent cleaning.

Approximate cost per foot: \$3-4. Pros: Easy to install, sturdy. Cons: Cylindrical design allows debris inside the “cage” and inside the gutter.

Reverse Curve Gutters

You’ve probably seen these on display at a hardware store or Costco. They show water running over the gutter and the curve pulls the water into a slit on the front of the gutter while debris drops to the ground. The solid covers do keep



Reverse curve gutters allow water to pass through a slot in the face of the gutter, but gravity will pull leaves and debris over the side.

most of the debris from getting into your gutter and this design is very effective at keeping debris out. There can still be small dirt particles that go into the gutter and can build up over time, and if that happens, it is nearly impossible to clean. Some professionally installed brands will promise to clean your gutters if that occurs.

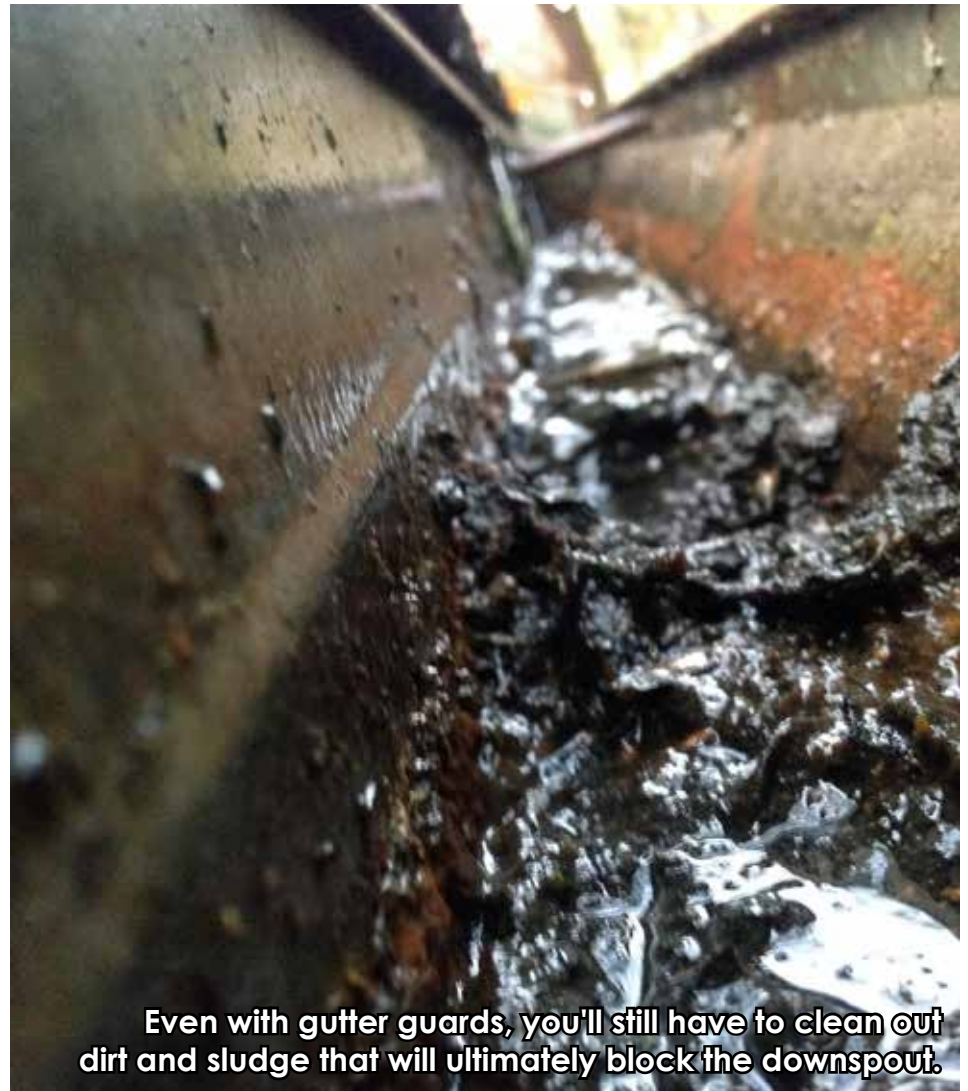
your bi-annual chore a little easier to complete.

If you've seen the displays, you have noticed how neatly the trickle of water is pulled into a rather small opening on the face of the gutter. It has been reported, however, that the rain from heavy storms may overwhelm the design, in which case, the water will cascade off the front, much like a clogged gutter.

*Approximate cost per foot: \$5-6.
Pros: Keeps out almost all leaves and debris. Cons: More expensive than other products. May have water collection issues during heavy storms.*

All of the above products do offer some relief from the continuous need for gutter cleaning, but no gutter guard will keep every kind of debris out of your gutter forever. You should expect to give your gutters a thorough inspection and cleaning in the spring and the fall (and more often if you have lots of trees that drop seeds, needles or small leaves.)

They can't completely eliminate this unpleasant task, but using any of these products will cut down on the messy chore of digging decomposing leaves and dirt out of the gutter itself, and will make



Even with gutter guards, you'll still have to clean out dirt and sludge that will ultimately block the downspout.

PHOTO CREDIT: LEAF GUARD GUTTERS

PHOTO CREDIT: RON DUNEVANT

Garden Time Tours

Travel with *Garden Time* to
**Italy, Monaco,
& France**
September 14-26, 2019

Book by
January 1st
and
**SAVE UP TO
\$250!***



Jardin Serre de la Madone



Villas and Gardens of Lake Como



Hanbury Botanical Gardens



Isola Bella on Lake Maggiore



Villa Ephrussi de Rothschild

13 Days/12 Nights • All Breakfasts Plus 11 Meals

Your garden adventure commences in Varenna, Italy, on beautiful Lake Como, where you will spend two days visiting stunning gardens and their accompanying gorgeous lakeside villas. On our way to Menton, we will visit the Italianate garden at Isola Bella on Lake Maggiore. Menton is our home for three nights as we explore the garden gems on the French Riviera, including the Jardin Exotique of Monaco and Lawrence Johnston's (Hidcote Manor) Jardin Serre de la Madone. Provence is next; via the charming university town of Aix, we make our way to Arles, one of Van Gogh's homes in Provence, our home for the next four nights. From Arles we will explore the surrounding area, visiting the market in Gordes and a number of private gardens, including La Louve, a contemporary garden in the Luberon region, created in 1986 by Hermes textile designer, Nicole de Vesian. Join Garden Time to savor the beauty these dazzling regions offer: lush gardens, delicious food and wine, colorful villages and Roman architecture.

***SEE DETAILS, ITINERARY AND PRICING>>**

Join us for this exciting Garden Time Tour!

Participation is limited.

We recommend you book early.

www.GardenTime.tv/tours

Travel thru Earthbound Expeditions

800-723-8454 / 206-842-9775

WTDITG

Wow! Where did the time go? Another year over. The holiday season is always a busy time, and many of us find it hard to fit in a little work in the yard. But our plants need us, especially now. Carve out a few hours during December to make sure your plants are safe and warm for the Winter. It will be the best present you can give them.

PLANNING

- Be ready for a cold snap. In case the temperature drops fast you'll want to be prepared to cover the plants. Using the Harvest Guard Protective Yard & Garden Cloth (AKA 'reemay') will protect the plants against severe cold temperatures. Cover only in



the cold spells, remove when temperatures rise again. Multiple layers will protect to lower temperatures.



- Plan a family trip to choose a live Christmas tree for this year's holiday. Live trees are just the best idea when thinking

green; a tree you can plant with the family after the holidays; a tradition that will grow with the family!

Some of you think it is better to use artificial trees as they are good for the environment. Nope! Artificial trees are generally made in China, pollute the atmosphere when being manufactured, fill up landfills and contain harmful chemicals. Instead of a fake tree this year, adopt a real one. Share the gift of life with the family with a live tree you can enjoy for decades.



- Organize your garden journal. Go over the notes from the year and set some goals and plans for next year.

PLANTING

- If you find your spring bulbs in a sack in the shed, get them planted! They are not going to sprout roots and grow in



the sack and yes it's late but there is still time to get them in the ground. If you don't plant them this month, it really will be too late.

- OK to plant trees and shrubs now. In our part of the world, if you can dig a hole in the soil,

you can still plant. Roots will still grow a little all winter long, so getting them in now will allow some root development during winter.



TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

- Time to clean out the Mason Bee condos and clean up the cocoons and get the condo system ready for the new season.

when you turn it over helps to break down the organic matter faster. Keep the pile from getting too waterlogged with a tarp or cover.

- Turn the compost pile. Adding oxygen to the pile

- Make sure that weeds are pulled away from the

What To Do In The Garden DECEMBER

base of trees and that bark or mulch is not too deep around trunks. Rodents like to chew on the bark and the hiding places the weeds or mulch provides should be eliminated.



- Make sure that any plant underneath big thirsty conifers or under the eave of the house is getting a good deep drink

of water once every 4-6 weeks. Plants can take more severe cold weather with hydrated cells than dehydrated cells.

- You can fertilize the lawn now if you haven't done so in the last two months. Lawns are still growing roots during the winter and you can improve the green color by applying a lawn food now. Using one with a moss killer will help kill off the moss over the winter. Apply a dose of dolomite lime to the lawn if none has been applied for a year. Don't use a weed-n-feed now, the weeds will just grow, not die. The chemicals in the weed killer need much warmer temperatures to work.

- Don't walk on frozen grass until it thaws. You will see your footprints on the turf in the spring otherwise.

- Watch for aphids on spruce trees. Often in the winter the spruces can get attacked by aphids. We don't usually notice until it's too late in the spring when all the old foliage falls off. Hose the trees off with a strong stream of water to knock any aphids from the needles. You can check and see if they are on the trees by holding white paper under a branch end and tap hard. Check for infestations by holding white paper under various branches and tapping. If they are present you'll see some on the paper.



- Dormant spray the fruit trees as needed for control of overwintering insects and diseases. However, no spray is needed if no disease or insect problem was detected this past season.

Dormant Spray Oil is used to smother the overwintering insects

and Copper Sprays are good for disease control. Spray according to directions on the label.



- Pruning: It is not time to prune but time to STUDY UP on the subject! Pruning fruit trees is discussed in great detail in many books

and articles. We highly recommend reading up on the subject before making cuts that you can't glue back on the tree. Read up and take good care of your trees. You'll get much more production from them if you do.

- Get after any weeds that are growing now before they go to seed.



Covering the beds with thick mulch after the weed pulling can help deter them further.

VEGETABLE GARDEN



- Do a recap of the successes and the failures. Start to plan what you want to grow next year and begin the process of finding out what grows best together in regards to companion planting.

• Check on the veggies you are wintering over. Make sure the compost mulch is nice and thick over the crops you are storing in the ground.

- Make out your wish list of things you'd like from Santa, like seed starting supplies, pruners, gardening tools and gloves.



Maybe some beautiful outdoor pottery to feature pretty flowers near the front entry for guests. Or a big fat gift certificate so you can come pick out what you want this next year!



PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town

Christmas in the Garden Thru December 31, 2018 (open most dates) Oregon Garden, Silverton, OR

We're Excited To Share Our New Christmas In The Garden Website With You! Visit our new Christmas Website! If you have any questions, please email info@christmasinthegarden.com or call 503-874-2539. Christmas In The Garden Is A Charming European-Inspired, Outdoor Event Featuring Ice Skating, Snowless Tubing, An Artisan Vendor Market, Photos With Santa, Fire Pits, Live Music And More, All In The Oregon Garden In Historic Silverton. Upon arrival, you will enter the Garden and follow the lights to the beautifully decorated Rediscovery Forest. Here, you can ice skate with your family, shop at our traditional German Christmas Market, walk through one million Christmas lights, sip gluhwein and other holiday beverages, slide down 150 feet on the snowless tubing track, listen to festive music & carolers, enjoy the smells and tastes of holiday foods, warm up next to fire pits, listen to live music in the heated, 21+ over Biergarten. www.oregongarden.org

Zoolights November 21, 2018-January 5, 2019 • 5:00pm-9:00pm*

The Oregon Zoo, Portland, OR

It wouldn't be the holidays in Portland without a visit to ZooLights, the Oregon Zoo's annual winter festival. As you walk around the zoo, you'll see a dazzling display of more than million and a half lights, and experience your zoo in a whole new light. In addition to visiting elephants, penguins and other animals, you can ride the popular lighted train and enjoy dinner from a variety of food carts. Little ones may want to ride the carousel, and Santa will be available at the events through December 23 for photos. There will be local food carts, special warm drinks and live music as well.

continued next column

*Closed December 24-25 for the holidays. Value Nights will take place on December 3-6 and 10-13. Zoo For All families are also welcome to attend those dates. Advance tickets are not available for Zoo For All guests. The zoo opens each day at 9:30 a.m., and ZooLights tickets are valid after 4 p.m. The hours are 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on ZooLights nights, and 5 to 8 p.m. on Zoo For All and Value Nights. Grounds remain open for one hour after gates close. www.oregonzoo.org

Wreath Making Workshop Saturday, December 1, 2018 • 10:00am Sunday, December 9, 2018 • 12:30pm Saturday, December 15, 2018 • 3:00pm Portland Nursery (Division), Portland, OR

With Portland Nursery Staff. Create your own fresh and beautiful wreath for the holidays! You will be guided through the process of making a wreath that is unique to you and guaranteed to bring holiday cheer into your home! Feel free to bring your own special decorative elements to add to your wreath. Class limited to 12. \$30 fee (pay at register after class) covers materials for a mixed green wreath with pinecones and handmade bow. Lots of extra special embellishments to personalize your wreath will be available to purchase additionally. Please bring gloves and hand pruners. www.portlandnursery.com

Holiday Light Spheres Saturday, December 1, 2018 • 11:00am-12:00pm Blooming Junction, Cornelius, OR

You may have noticed our beautiful Light Spheres displayed along Zion Church Rd. If not, we invite you to drive by after sunset and take a look- then come to this class and we'll teach you how to make your very own! We'll supply enough lights and materials to make three 2-foot light spheres for you to hang from a tree or display in your yard this holiday season. Gloves recommended. Class

continued next page



Fee is \$40 and Preregistration by Thursday the 29th is required. 35105 NW Zion Church Rd. Cornelius, OR 97113. www.bloomingjunction.com

Kid's Club: Seed Paper Snowflake & Reindeer Food
Saturday, December 1, 2018 • 11:00am(W)
Saturday, December 8, 2018 • 11:00am(S)
Saturday, December 15, 2018 • 11:00am(G)
Saturday, December 22, 2018 • 11:00am(V)
Al's Garden & Home, Woodburn, Sherwood, Gresham, Wilsonville(V), OR

Cost: \$7.50 to cover the cost of materials. Seed paper is so unique; it's paper with actual flower seeds embedded in it that you can plant in your garden in the spring and it will grow flowers. This makes a great gift and will be even more special when your child makes it into a delightful snowflake shape. We will also make reindeer food to attract them to our homes on Christmas Eve and celebrate another great year with cookies and punch. www.als-gardencenter.com

Reward Member's Weekend!
Saturday-Sunday, December 1-2, 2018
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

We want to thank our wonderful customers so this weekend is for you! There will be food, hot cider, popcorn and s'mores. Wine tasting 11:30am to 3:00pm both days. There will be specials, classes and more. So please stop by so we can say thank you for your support. 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

Holiday Sale & Open Nursery
Sunday, December 2, 2018 • 10:00am-3:00pm
Sedum Chicks, Turner, OR

Please share and invite your family & friends to join you at this fun, festive sale and social. We are excited to have you tour our Workshop & Succulent Nursery. Handcrafted holiday & spring gifts; succulent containers; living walls, hypertufa & much

continued next column

more. Rustic metal art & signs. Fun upcycled items. Many sweet, savory snacks and holiday refreshments to enjoy.

9537 39th Ave SE, Turner, OR www.sedumchicks.com

Wreathmaking Workshop
Sunday, December 2, 2018 • 11:00am-1:00pm
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Learn how to make your very own holiday wreath from just a wire wreath ring and cut greens. This workshop is fun and messy! The class is held in a lightly heated house so wear layers for warmth and bring gloves. We will provide the materials, tools and hot cider. Fee: \$35 - Preregistration required. Call 541-753-6601 to reserve your spot! 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

Miniature Garden Workshop
Sunday, December 2, 2018 • 2:00pm-3:00pm
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

All faerie gardens are miniature gardens, but not all tiny gardens are faerie gardens! Miniature gardens are whimsical and enchanting and now you can make one of your very own with expert assistance. Cost is \$45.00 per person. 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

Wreath, Swag or Centerpiece Workshop
Wednesday, December 5, 2018 • 11:00am-1:00pm
Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

We want to offer a midweek option for those of you with busy weekends. You pick whether you want to make a swag, a centerpiece or a wreath. There will be expert instruction and all the supplies you need to create your very own holiday masterpiece. Cost: \$35 - Preregistration required. Call 541-753-6601 to reserve your spot! 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

continued on page 35

OFFICIAL GARDEN TIME MERCHANDISE

Hats, Backpacks & Shirts, Oh My!



**GARDEN TIME
T-SHIRTS**
Available in sizes
small to x-large



**GARDEN TIME
BAG/BACKPACKS**
Drawstrings become
backpack straps



**GARDEN TIME
CAPS**
Available in 3 colors

**ORDER ON-LINE AT THE
GARDEN TIME STORE**

www.gardentime.tv/store



PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town (continued)

com

Wreath Making Workshop

Saturday, December 8, 2018 • 12:30pm

Portland Nursery (Stark), Portland, OR

With Portland Nursery Staff. Come create a beautiful wreath for your door this holiday season! Portland Nursery staff will supply the technical know-how, you bring your own special style, your gloves and pruners. We will make a 12" wreath with fresh greens and other decoration. Dress warmly! There is a \$30 materials fee for this class. Class limit 10 people. www.portlandnursery.com

Create Your Own Holiday Swag

Saturday, December 8, 2018 • 1:00pm-2:00pm

Sunday, December 9, 2018 • 1:00pm-2:00pm

Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Cost: \$30. It's so popular we had to offer two workshops! No, we are not talking about bling or the evergreen garland rope that goes on railings. Our definition of swag is "an informal door or wall decoration created from evergreen boughs." Add a bow and some berries or other ornamentation, and you have your very own signature holiday decoration! Great as a gift! It's easy! The class is in a lightly heated house, so dress in warm layers and bring gloves.... 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

Beginning Bonsai:

Informal Upright Chamaecyparis

Sunday, December 9, 2018 • 1:00pm-3:00pm

Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Instructor Theo Bennett will teach you how to create a finished informal upright Chamaecyparis bonsai to take home. Cost: \$50. 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

Bonsai Class: Bonsai Design Principles

Saturday, December 15, 2018 • 11:00am

continued next column

Tsugawa Nursery, Woodland, WA

Come learn how we achieve artistically engaging representations of nature in miniature. With this group we will look at principles of design that help us create beautiful bonsai. A fee for materials may be added once topic is determined. Call us for more information. www.tsugawanursery.com

Create Your Own Holiday Centerpiece

Saturday, December 15, 2018 • 11:00am-1:00pm

Sunday, December 16, 2018 • 1:00pm-3:00pm

Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Learn to make a beautiful holiday centerpiece using cut greens, berries and other accessories and finish it all off with a candle. Class is held in a lightly heated outdoor house, so dress in warm layers and bring gloves. We will provide all the materials, tools and hot cider. Cost: \$35.00 - Preregistration required. Call 541-753-6601 to reserve your spot! 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

No Nightmares on this "ELM" Street

Saturday, December 22, 2018 • 11:00am-1:00pm

Garland Nursery, Corvallis, OR

Learn why every bonsai artist should have at least one Elm in their collection. The workshop comes with a tree. Taught by Lee Cheattle of the Bonsai Society of Portland. Cost: \$75 Preregistration required. Please call 541-753-6601 to reserve your space. Class fees must be paid in advance to secure reservation. Please give 48 hours notice of cancellation for a full refund. 5470 NE Highway 20, Corvallis, OR 97330. www.garlandnursery.com

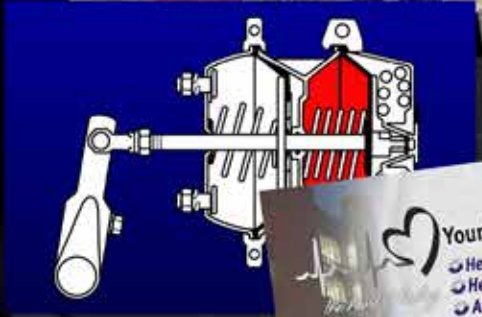
LOOKING FOR MORE?

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

Yes You Can!

...have high quality, professional videos for your company at a price that fits your budget. At Gustin Creative Group, we specialize in video: Presentations, demonstrations, instructional and commercial content. Videos for broadcast, YouTube, DVDs or on your website. Impressive messages that look great and get attention. Get your message to your customers in a way that stands out from the crowd.

Contact us today and see what we can do for you!



These are just some of the companies we've produced videos for:

**Benson High School • Central City Concern • Malarkey Roofing
Lewis and Clark Law School • Muscular Distrophy Association
Oregon Cancer SkiOut • Regional Water Providers Consortium
SOLV • Salem Hospital • Team Oregon • Willow Station**

"Together, We Create the Message"



**GUSTIN
CREATIVE
GROUP**

www.GustinCreativeGroup.com

**CONTACT US TODAY
503-793-6804**

email: gustingroup@comcast.net