



Growing INSPIRATIONS



“Where Gardening Dreams Take Root.”

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August Hours: Mon.-Sat. 9:00am-6:00pm, Sun. 10: am-4:00pm

The Legend of the Glorious Garden Gazing Ball

by Fran Bacon



Reflective, colorful, and rich in history, the gazing globe is again making a grand re-entrance into the world of gardening. In time past, the decorative garden ball sported many names. Depending on its use, the globe may have been called a witches ball, a butler ball, a globe of happiness, or a Victorian ball. Dating back to the 13th century the colorful hand blown sphere was made in Venice, Italy by skilled craftsmen. Antonio Nier, a fifteenth century priest, called it a sphere of light, and soon it became a permanent fixture in the European garden. Through the years legends formed about the mysterious powers of the colorful balls.

These globes are said to bring happiness, good luck

and prosperity to those who owned them. They were also thought to ward off evil spirits, misfortune, illness, and of all things, witches. A witch could not bear to see her own reflection and thus kept away. In Victorian times, the “Butler Ball” served as a mirror for servants to see when guests needed assistance, making it possible for them not to stare at them throughout the meal. They were also used in the foyer of a home, so parents could keep a close eye on their daughter and her date as he said good night.

The gazing globe today is mostly used as an enhancement to the flower garden. The reflective ball allows the whole garden, including the sky, to be viewed with one glance.

Reilly's has just received a new shipment of European crystal Gazing Balls. These beautiful works of art, hand blown by Polish artisans will provide exceptional color and beauty to your garden. The quality globes such as we carry at Reilly's Garden Center will last for many years. We do want to warn you not to remove the seal at the neck of the ball. The seal prevents the moisture from collecting inside the globe. Moisture will cause the reflective color to peel.



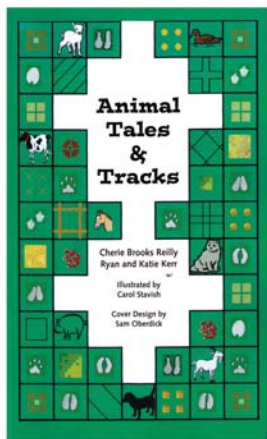
The Dog Days of Summer are upon us, with plenty of hot weather. Everything slows down so we can start spending less time doing and more time enjoying. But for those who need to keep busy, and those who still need a bit of garden beautification, there are a few things that should be done in August. Place coming to our [Dog Days Of Summer Sale](#) Aug. 1-10 first on your list.

Beauty in the Shade

by Andrea Richardson

Looking for something colorful or different to grow in shady areas? It's the time to think outside of the box and get creative. Consider some really cool caladiums. Look for the stunning 'Marie Moir' with her large white leaves, dark green veins, and spots of red, 'Florida Red Ruffles' boast a long lance leaf radiating red centers engulfed in emerald green margins, and Caladium Humboldt 'Pha Ya Sa Vette' claims many tiny white and green leaves that dance in the breeze. These plants are perfect for shady spots and they love the heat.





Animal Tales and Tracks

Is a delightful Children's book about the feathered and furry friends at Summer Seat Farm written by Cherie Reilly and her grandchildren, Katie and Ryan Kerr. Copies are available at the Garden Center.



A picnic with the neighborhood bears.

Gather at Reilly's on Aug. 9th at 10:30 a.m. under the spreading Linden trees with your picnic lunch, kids, and teddy bears in hand. The day's activities include a morning of games, stories, and a hayride. There will also be a chance to milk a cow and feed the animals. Fee \$5.00. Call for reservations by Aug. 7th. 412-364-8662.

Lace Bug Damage

We mentioned this topic in last years Aug. Newsletter, but many continue to request help for the pictured leaf damage on broad leaf evergreens like Rhododendrons. The damaged noted in the picture results from the sucking of the tiny Lace Bug on the leaf's underside. We find the best solution is Bayer Advanced Tree & Shrub Insect Control. It's important to apply it right away if you note the tell-tale discolorations.



August Garden To Do List

Continue to water, weed and monitor for insects on all garden plants. In times of prolonged hot weather, first water all newly planted trees and shrubs, and perennials.

Monitor for Japanese beetle damage. These iridescent insects skeletonize foliage of roses, grapevines and linden, maple, elm, birch and crab apple trees. Hand-remove them by knocking them into a jar of soapy water.

Continue to water newly planted trees and shrubs each week if rainfall is insufficient. Watch closely for signs of scorch on tender new foliage of trees and shrubs — the margins of leaves turn brown and crispy — indicating lack of water.

Pruning is generally not advised this month, with the exception of shrubs that should be pruned immediately following their flowering.

Continue to deadhead annuals and perennials to encourage additional flowers. Allow certain dried flower heads to remain standing for fall and winter interest, including astilbe, coneflower, sedum, Siberian Iris, and others.

Water container gardens as needed. Continue to feed container plants with **Nursery Select Growth Food For Containers** twice a month.

Consider planting chrysanthemums, anemones, asters or other fall-flowering plants to further extend flowering season. The earlier the mum is planted in your garden, the greater the chance of survival over winter. Mulch newly planted perennials immediately.

Remove yellowing daylily foliage or leaves that are browned and spotted. Green leaves must remain on the plant to continue to manufacture food. Deadhead individual flowers to keep plants looking tidy.

Daylilies can be divided and replanted or new plants can be installed at the end of this month. Peonies can be planted at the end of this month and into early fall.

During the first week of August, plant short-season snap beans, broccoli, cabbages, cauliflower, carrots, mustard greens, spinach and radishes for fall harvesting.

Fabulous Foliage: Using Color and Texture in the Garden

by Mark Helbling II



When choosing shrubs for my own gardens, the first thing I look at is the color and texture of the foliage. This may seem an odd way to choose flowering shrubs, but when you consider most shrubs have short bloom times, it begins to make more sense. Contrasting foliage will remain attractive during the entire season and so drab areas in the garden are avoided.

If you are planting shrubs, combine small leafed barberry, a lacy Black Beauty Elderberry and a compact, large, bold-leafed Pee Wee Hydrangea. Your goal is to place

plants of different leaf texture (size and shape) next to one another.

With perennials you could start with a grass-like plant like a daylily, iris or sedge. Next choose a plant with larger heart shaped leaves like a hosta or Brunnera. The third plant chosen may have a complex leaf with a lacy look such as a fern or astilbe. Place them next time you are at the Garden Center and see how well they go together.

Choose plants whose leaves are attractive on their own, as well as in combination with the other plants in the landscape. Try to break up the look of the garden by using a combination of textures and colors, rather than large masses of plants with similar foliage types. Conifers, with their wide variety of colors and textures give us many opportunities to focus on foliage. For instance, blue globe spruces contrast nicely with the dark green Mugo pines, green creeping junipers, and even gold thread false cypress. Larger plants with dark green leaves, like rhododendrons and other evergreens, can be used as a backdrop to highlight smaller, more colorful shrubs like the 'My Monet' weigela, 'Crimson Pygmy' barberry, or even 'Magic Carpet' spiraea. Using these guidelines will make the garden more attractive throughout the year. So remember to look at the foliage of your plants, rather than just the flowers. Blooms fade all too quickly, but attractive, contrasting foliage lasts all season long!



Raspberries

Both red and golden are expected to be ready for picking around the 20th of August depending on the weather \$3.99 a pint U-pick



Night hayride and bonfire.

Reservations are now being taken for the fall season. Call 412-364-8662



Start Searching

They look like this, and Gardener Incentive Award Members received them with every purchase. They can be used as cash when matched with an equal amount of US Currency during Reilly Rewards Days Aug.18-24. Now is the time to get a fabulous deal on those special items that never seem to go on sale. If you miss the scheduled dates, they drop in value by one half during the following week of August 25-31.

Thinking about Christmas? - Probably not

But if your church is looking for a local grower to add holiday cheer to the worship area, or if a few poinsettias are needed to brighten up the office or to be given as gifts to co-workers or employees now is the time to act. I know it is only August, but the sooner Christmas poinsettia orders for home, church or business, are submitted the better. The best selection and lowest price can be obtained in August. Talk to Andrea about prices and sizes.





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INTRODUCTORY OFFER 25% OFF

Offer Valid: August 2008. Coupon is required. Limit 1 coupon per family.

Dog Days Bonus

Gardner Incentive Program members receive an additional 10% discount on all purchases during the Dog Days of Summer Sale



Coupon may not be combine with any other offer. Limit 1 per family. Offer valid August 1-10, 2008.

Why We Love 'Instant Summer Color'

It happens, every summer even in the best gardens. We create the perfect patio planter or garden bed, and all of a sudden something just gives up and dies! We are then left with a sad little empty spot just begging to be filled. The solution to this dilemma is Instant Summer Color.



We have planted your favorite summer annuals in bigger pots to allow more room for roots to grow, fuller plants that will immediately and easily fill those empty spots. You will find Verbena, Petunias, Million bells, Angelonia, and daises just to name a few. So when poor weather or oops-got busy and forgot to water, or just plain bad luck plagues your garden, don't worry, our Summer Color will restore your sanity, and your gardens beauty.

August Special Events

Hours Change

We will close an hour earlier, 6pm Mon- Sat, for the remainder of the season.

Dog Days of Summer Sale

August 1-10 Major discounts, up to 80%, as marked, on less than perfect trees, shrubs, perennials, garden ornaments and supplies. Excess plant material also discounted.

Teddy Bear Picnic

August 9th 10:30 AM. Fee \$5. per person. Remember to bring along your picnic lunch

Reilly Rewards Days

August 18-24. Bring in your Reilly Rewards Certificates and use them as cash. It's like a 1/2 off sale on all but fall products.

Red Raspberry Season

Pick your own raspberries are expected to be ripe around the 20th of August. Call 412-364-8270 for picking information.

Evening in The Garden

Friday, August 22nd at 7:30 pm

Come join us for a relaxing evening touring several examples of garden rooms created by our staff. Light refreshments will be served and the evening will conclude with a presentation by Kathy Simpson on "Gardens with Purpose." Details will be provided by email.