



Growing Matters

Greetings

This year has already proven to be a big year for those of us who enjoy gardening and outdoor spaces. This March the Central New York State Nursery and Landscape Association (CNYSNLA) held its first ever Flower and Garden Show at the OnCenter in Syracuse.

Nicole (Pippi) and I volunteered our time at the Welcome Booth and we were happy to see many friendly faces. The feedback the association received was

overwhelmingly positive and many suggestions were made for making next year's show even better.

If you didn't get a chance to attend this year's event, please plan on attending CNY Blooms in 2008. It is a great place to find inspiration and collect new ideas for creating a beautiful outdoor environment. It is also a wonderful opportunity to visit with and view the talents of your local nursery and landscape professionals.

-Vicky Hilleges

Planning the Spring Shade Garden

Planning and selecting plants for a spring shade garden is especially rewarding because many shade plants bloom in the spring when we are most craving a splash of color. But, by the time summer rolls around, blooms are often scarce, so it is important to consider the plants foliage when making your selections.

Spring blooming perennials that have foliage that is as impressive as their blooms include ajuga, brunnera, epimedium, heuchera, lamium, pulmonaria, and tiarella,

Knowing a plant's bloom time and preference for shade does not ensure a successful garden. You'll also want to consider if the plant has a preference for dry or moist soil conditions. Ajuga and lamium are a no fail pair for planting in the

dry shade found under mature trees or along a shrub border. Epimedium is another great option for a dry shade garden.

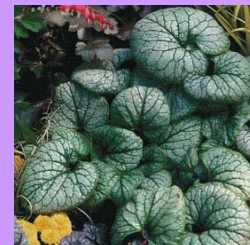
On the other hand, if your garden tends to be more on the moist side, brunnera, dicentra, heuchera, pulmonaria, and tiarella would be more appropriate choices. They thrive in rich moist soil and make a striking foliage combination when planted with hostas and ferns.

Of course, you won't want to forget to add creeping phlox to your spring shade garden. Its sweetly fragrant bloom, and attractive foliage that forms a dense groundcover, make it a valuable addition to the moist or dry shade garden. For a vertical accent combine the phlox with a clump of Christmas Fern, which is equally not fussy about soil moisture.

Garden Gate Chat

When and how do I prune my lavender? *Lavender is a subshrub not a herbaceous plant and therefore should not be cut to the ground like most perennials. The best time to prune lavender is when leaf buds emerge in spring. Since it is easy to mistake live wood for dead wood, it is best to wait until you see a little green before starting. You can cut back lavender again just after its flowers fade. This is the best time to deadhead and also a good time to shape your plant. Deadheading one flower at a time is tedious; instead, grab a handful of spent blooms and cut them all at once. To shape the plant, cut three to five leaf nodes below each flower spike being sure to leave four or five nodes where new growth can emerge.*

Pippi's Plant Spotlight

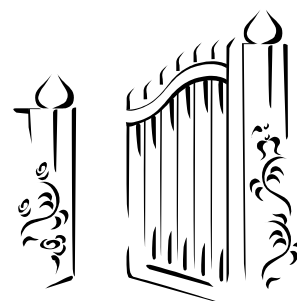


Brunnera macrophylla

'Jack Frost'

Sky blue, forget-me-not like flowers in spring and heart shaped leaves with a netted silver overlay make this plant a great selection for brightening up shady areas. An international award winner.

- ❖ Part shade/shade
- ❖ 12"-15" tall
- ❖ Moist soil
- ❖ Good container plant
- ❖ Deer resistant
- ❖ Zones 3-8



Pippi's Perennials

perennials • waterplants • shrubs

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Bring this newsletter to either Pippi's location by May 31st. and receive 10% off your total purchase

Pippi's will be at the regional market starting the first Thursday and first Saturday of May.

Spring Blooms at Pippi's Perennials

Are you looking for spring blooms? Spring blooms for a variety of soil and light conditions are available at Pippi's Perennials.

Keep in mind our precious winged friends when selecting your perennials and you will be given an additional reward for your gardening efforts. Hummingbirds

love ajuga, clematis, dicentra, heuchera, lamium, and pulmonaria. While butterflies are attracted to alchemilla, baptisia, moss phlox and heuchera.

A few of Pippis's spring blooming plants are listed at right. Visit www.pippis.net for a complete listing of available plants.

Springtime

Oh, spring came to my garden
And caught it unaware
Wearing just a few old leaves
And a dejected air.

But when spring left my garden,
Its work so deftly done,
Many, many Daffodils
Were dancing in the sun.
-Velma D. Bates

Pippi's Locations & Hours

CNY Regional Market Authority:

2100 Park Street
Syracuse, NY

Open: May 3rd – Oct 20th

Thurs. 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM[±] (Shed A/18)

Sat. 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Shed D/10&12)

Home Location:

12 Sherry Lane
Kirkville, NY 13082
(Sherry Ln. is located off Fyler Rd.,
¼ mile east of N. Kirkville Rd.)

Open: April 20th – Oct. 20th

Fri. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Or By Appointment or Chance

- ❖ Ajuga (Bugleweed)
- ❖ Alchemilla mollis (Lady's Mantle)
- ❖ Baptisia
- ❖ Brunnera
- ❖ Cerastium (Snow in Summer)
- ❖ Clematis 'Bee's Jubilee'
- ❖ Dicentra (Bleeding Heart)
- ❖ Epimedium (Barrrenwort)
- ❖ Euphorbia (Cushion Spurge)
- ❖ Helleborus (Lenten Rose)
- ❖ Heuchera (Coral Bells)
- ❖ Lamium
- ❖ Oenothera (Evening Primrose)
- ❖ Phlox (Creeping & Moss Phlox)
- ❖ Pulmonaria (Lungwort)
- ❖ Tiarella (Foam Flower)



Member:

Perennial Plant Association
New York State Nursery/Landscape Association