

Beaver Creek Nursery

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NEWSLETTER

March 2014



Sorry for the delay in getting this Newsletter out this month but as you can see I just didn't feel very "Springy" around March 1st.

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IT'S OFFICIAL!!!

The economy is finally healed!

We have 100 % full employment!

The world is again perfect!

and....

how do I know this you ask??

2 Reasons!

1. We have had an ad for help in two newspapers for 5 days now as of this writing and to date we have not had a single call or individual apply. So "everyone" that WANTS to work must be employed!

and

2. Ava (NOT ME!) went to Walmart for a replacement cord for our camera on Friday. However, Walmart was completely sold out of cameras. Also they were almost completely sold out of televisions and cell phones. So, this tells me that if Walmart is completely sold out of these "luxury" items then everyone now must have a job and have plenty of disposable income.

So, bottom line is, if you know of anyone that actually, possibly, maybe, on the slight chance, may STILL for some strange reason want a job....send him/her over to fill out an application. We have plenty of extras.

Qualifications for Employment

1. Individual must be breathing!
2. Individual must be able to pass a D.O.T (Department of Transportation) physical which means the individual has been officially confirmed to be breathing and not on life altering drugs!
3. Individual MUST have a valid and clean driver's license. Clean here does not mean "pretty".
4. Individual must be reliable. This means the individual must also be breathing and free of life altering drugs when he/she shows up EVERYDAY, On TIME!
5. Individual must be able to work hard without the aid of life altering drugs.
6. Individual must be polite and courteous at all times with a neat and professional appearance. Example: If customer seems anxious and in somewhat of a rush the proper response would not be....."Just hang on mister, don't get your pants all twisted... relax; I'll get your stuff, as soon as I get finished with my cigarette!"

Pay is equal to abilities and experience.

BUT....Of Course, EVERY ONE IS ALREADY Employed!!

Just Notes

If you want to know all the things you need to be doing in March for your lawn and landscape just [Click Here](#) and then click on "6 March Must Do's".

When cutting back your ornamental grasses, try tying them up first with duct tape or string before cutting them off. It keeps them from blowing all over the yard and makes them manageable when disposing. Also, the best item we have found for doing the actual cutting once they are tied up is the gas or electric hedge shears. Note: This is the only thing I would ever recommend using these types of shears on.

Although this winter's cold was a good thing for killing a lot of overwintering bugs and crud it was not necessarily a good winter for the vigor of some landscape plants. This will be a true test of many of the "zone 6" plants that many of us have in our landscapes. I have already seen winter injury and even dieback on many different plants including Southern Magnolia, Hollies and even Boxwoods. So, approach these plants with reserved panic as many may lose their leaves and re-grow new ones or come back up from the ground. If not, then panic.

You know, just remembered here, someone called the other day wanting to know about pruning her Honeysuckle. My answer: It blooms on new wood so you can prune it any time now before it puts out new

growth. If you want it to stay smaller....prune it harder. If you want it to grow taller....prune lightly.

Remember, late March is the perfect time to put down crab grass preventer and lawn fertilizer. **HINT:** We have exactly what you need here at the Nursery.

Also, If you are tired of going to the big box stores for your fertilizers and chemicals because you are so overwhelmed by all the possible choices just come here instead. We **ONLY** carry those few products that you **ACTUALLY NEED**. Tell us what you want to do and we can fix you right up. No need to have a bunch of different marketing hype bottles cluttering your shelves. Get the right stuff for the right job!

Don't forget to clean out all your bird houses now so the little gals can build a nice clean nest. Can't imagine having triplets or more in a hospital with a dirty and cluttered birthing room.





Sorry to barge in on you like this but I thought I heard someone say something about pruning Hydrangeas!

Well.... I'm glad someone finally ASKED ME!!!

However, since I am a giraffe and not a regular on an old Jerry Seinfeld show I will try to make this short and sweet.

The most important thing you need to know about pruning Hydrangeas is that actually you never NEED to prune them. That's right! Unless it has gotten way too big or unsightly in the area you really don't need to prune them. It can be a simple matter of planting the right plant in the right place. However, pruning them can sometimes help make them fuller and have larger blooms if done at the right time.

So, you ask, How do I know when the "right time" is?

Well, again, I am glad somebody asked "me"!

That all depends on whether the variety you have blooms on old wood or new wood or both.

And here is the simple lowdown!

If it blooms on new wood it can be pruned anytime after it finishes blooming in late fall to anytime before new growth in the spring.

If it blooms on old wood it **MUST** be pruned immediately after the blooms fade before it sets new buds.

Now, all but one type of hydrangea in this area bloom on new growth and can be pruned as mentioned above.

This includes the following:

Smooth Hydrangea - *Hydrangea arborescens*

such as Annabelle and the newer Incrediball and Invincible Spirit



Annabelle

Hardy Hydrangea - *Hydrangea paniculata*



Pinky Winky

This includes most of the upright varieties you see that are blooming throughout the late summer. This list includes Limelight, Little Lime, Little Lamb, Tardiva, Quickfire, Pinky Winky, Peegee and others.



Limelight - bloom

Oakleaf Hydrangea - *Hydrangea quercifolia*

This includes the taller varieties such as Snow Queen and Alice and the dwarf varieties such as Sikes Dwarf and the new Ruby Slippers.



Oak leaf

All 3 varieties mentioned above bloom on new growth so again, prune them anytime from late fall after the blooms begin to fade or in early spring before new growth begins to appear.

Personally, I like to prune all of the above mentioned hydrangeas in the early spring. Not only does the larger plant and spent blooms give some winter interest and bird coverage but it also gives you an excuse to be outside on those early warm days.

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Now, here is the other type of hydrangea that you **MUST** prune within a couple weeks after the blooms begin to fade and **BEFORE** the plant sets new buds. If you wait too long and prune off the buds....it won't bloom as well if at all. This variety is called the

Bigleaf Hydrangea - *Hydrangea macrophylla*

This class contains both "Mop Heads" and "Lace Caps" including such varieties as All Summer Beauty, City Line Series, and the all time favorite...Endless Summer, which is what most people have of this type.



Lace Cap - pink, white, or blue



Endless Summer - pink to blue

All of these have a more coarsely serrated and darker green leaf than the other hydrangeas. These can also have pink to blue blooms on them depending on the acidity of your soil.

NOTE: One exception here to the pruning in this category is the Endless Summer. This Big leaf Hydrangea was bred to bloom on both "old wood and new wood" so you don't need to worry about when to prune and it blooms all summer.

Now, having said that and taking an educated guess at what 99% of you all in this area may have, I am going to say if you are still not sure "prune it as though it bloomed on new growth.

Whew!!!

I'm Done talking!!!!!!!!!!!!

A Closing Thought

Gardening is a way of showing you believe in tomorrow

Beaver Creek Nursery

**Southeastern Indiana's Largest
& Most Unique Nursery**

812-689-5595

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