



2011 Summer Newsletter

At this time of the year we will spend many hours outdoors. Whether you are a new gardener, an expert wanting to expand your flowerbeds, or someone who wishes to relax on the patio surrounded by beautiful patio furniture and gorgeous plants and containers, Parkland Garden Centre has everything you need. Come visit us for all your plants, garden accessories, statuary, outdoor furniture and much more! It's worth the visit!

Did you know...

Can I combine different types of fertilizer?

There are times when it makes sense to supplement one fertilizer with another. E.g. slow release fertilizer with water soluble fertilizer, but they should never be mixed in the same container and should be applied separately.

That July is the time to prune Birch trees, Maple trees, Lilac bushes and June flowering roses and Spireas.

New Items at Parkland Garden Shop!

1. Napa Firelites – safe for indoor or outdoor use - uses gel fuel with citronella fuel available for outdoors; repels mosquitoes and adds drama and romance to any occasion
2. Framed prints – large selection of bright colors
3. Jewellery and purses – new selection just arrived
4. Solar landscape lights, garden stakes and wind chimes

Attracting Hummingbirds with Plants

Vines and bushes are important for those who want to combine effective landscape design with the hobby of watching hummingbirds or butterflies. Bushes can be used as structural elements to form a border to separate two properties or to define distinct outdoor spaces. A vine-covered arbor can likewise be an important element on a landscape, furnishing it with a focal point. Annuals and perennials, vines, shrubs, trees, bedding plants and hanging plants can all be used to attract hummingbirds. Some examples of this are 1) Dropmore honeysuckle with large scarlet flowers is a climber 2) Lantana plants "Spreading Sunset" has a flower head with gold centers surrounded by an orange that later fades to pink 3) fuchsia hangers are the answer for shaded areas. Annuals such as red Salvia, and perennials like Maltese Cross, Monarda, or Columbine are irresistible to the "hummers."

Even if you don't have a garden, you can be feeding hummingbirds by using a proper feeder that has been designed especially for them. There are lots of different styles of hummingbird feeders. Most of them have red in them because the birds are attracted to this. However, if you find a feeder you really like that doesn't have red in it, a red ribbon tied around it will do. Hummingbirds are very territorial, so you will need to have your feeders in spots where they won't be visible to one another. If they are placed within sight of each other, the birds will often fight – sometimes to death – to protect their food. Hummingbird season starts when the weather begins to warm up.

Be sure to come in and select from our great variety of feeders, nectars, and bird seed available daily in our garden centre shop. Have questions? Ask our “Specialists”!



	<p>Please present this coupon and receive</p> <p>One (1) free 4” Perennial \$3.99 - \$4.99</p> <p>Limit one coupon per customer While quantities last Expiry date: July 30, 2011</p>
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Ask our “Specialists” for assistance and complete details on your horticultural questions!

It’s Not Too Late for Custom Planters:

Despite the cool weather, summer is upon us once again! There’s still time to pull those containers out of storage and start thinking about your favorite flowers.

Our greenhouse has many exciting in full bloom plants that would be perfect for your container garden this year. We look forward to serving you, our valued customer and invite you to bring your containers for our specialists to plant. Please feel free to consult with our specialists about color schemes and the location of your container garden so you can have that perfect planter.

Our “Specialists” look forward to answering all of your gardening questions.

July to-do list:

- Remove suckering shoots from roses and fruit trees
- Keep hanging baskets and window boxes well watered, fed and deadheaded
- Prune evergreen hedges and deciduous shrubs that have finished blooming
- Fertilize rhododendrons and blueberries with plant food for acid-loving plants
- Spread available compost over all beds, then overhaul and turn the remaining pile.

Carnivorous Plants - Venus Fly Trap/Sundew/Butterwort/Pitcher Plant

Thriving on a diet of insects, plants such as sundews, Venus flytraps and pitcher plants are fascinating to grow. Choose a watertight container at least 30 centimeters deep and wide (smaller containers will dry out through evaporation and plant transpiration). Fill the bottom one-third with pea gravel and tuck a piece of perforated pipe down one side for easy watering. Fill to the top with a 1:1:1 mixture of peat, medium perlite and long-fibre sphagnum moss. If the last is not available, use 1:1 peat and medium perlite. Soak completely with rainwater or distilled water (don’t use tap water) before planting. Then plant 1 to 3 plants carefully in the moss. If possible, add a top layer of live sphagnum moss to create the perfect environment. Give your carnivores lots of sun and mineral-free water but no fertilizer. There’s no need to feed them – they will attract and consume plenty of insects. Many of these plants go dormant in winter so move them to a cool, frost-free spot in fall.

True or False:

1. All grasses are pollinated by wind – True
2. Honey bees are the most efficient pollinators there are – False
3. Some plants can only be pollinated by bees – True
4. Hummingbirds are attracted mostly by scent – False



2011 Calendar of Courses

Pre-register in person at the Garden Centre or by telephone 403-346-5613. Please contact us if you would like more information or to make suggestions for future courses or events.

Check our Calendar often for updates!

July

Queen of Flowers – The Rose

Alfred will reveal his secrets to a beautiful rose garden. From the old to the new, this course will explore the kingdom of the rose.

Cost: \$15.00 plus GST - includes guided tour

Saturday, July 9 10:00am to 12:00pm

Private Garden Tour

View four spectacular private gardens right in Red Deer. View unique garden plants and ponds, and see exciting new gardening concepts. Travel in a luxury coach accompanied by our staff to give you a tour and information regarding these beautiful yards and gardens. Enjoy an evening of fun and light refreshments.

Please call 403.346.5613 to register.

Cost: \$40.00 plus GST

Wednesday, July 27 5:45pm to 9:00pm

August

Mexican Cooking with Herbs

Who doesn't love Mexican food? Come to learn the secrets of Mexican cooking using herbs specific to this wonderful culinary culture.

Enjoy samples of the great recipes that you will take home with you. Bring a friend and enjoy a festive night with Cristina, a native Mexican and Cordon Bleu Mexican Chef.

Please call 403.346.5613 to register.

Cost: \$45.00 plus GST

Thursday, August 11 6:00pm to 8:00pm

BBQ Delight – Cooking with Herbs

Surprise your family and friends with your new BBQ skills using fresh garden herbs. A complete menu of kabobs including appetizers, main courses, vegetables, fruit and more. Bring along a friend for a fun night of tasting and testing. Each participant will receive a free BBQ apron as well as numerous recipes to take home. A great gift idea for the man in your life!

Please call 403.346.5613 to register.

Cost: \$35.00 plus GST

Thursday, August 25 6:00pm to 8:00pm

September

Annual Harvest Festival

Come join the fun at Parkland Garden Centre on Saturday and Sunday as we celebrate the fall season. Bring the whole family! Fun for everyone! We will have a Bouncy Castle, Face Painting, Hay Maze, and a Petting Zoo for the children, food sampling and shopping galore for Mom and Dad as well as popcorn and fresh berry pies. Bring your family and friends and enjoy an afternoon surrounded by a wonderful setting. Don't miss our fun-filled event.

Cost: FREE

Saturday and Sunday, September 10 and 11 11:00am – 4:00pm