

2012 Summer Newsletter

Welcome to a brand new year at Parkland! Our staff is busy getting new and exciting things ready for the 2012 season. We look forward to seeing you again this year and thank you for the opportunity to be your personal plant supplier for all your gardening requirements. If you haven't discovered it already, we want you to know about our Plant Finder tool located on our website at www.parklandgarden.ca. Have questions about plants, choosing materials or how to care for your yard? Come out and talk to our Specialists and they will assist you with all of your planting needs.

Once again Parkland Garden Centre is offering a MYKE "5" year warranty program on hardy trees and shrubs when accompanied with the purchase of any tree or shrub. Be sure to ask our "Specialists" for more information.

Be sure to check out our new Garden Guide magazine full of tips and other helpful information, including coupons! If you did not receive a copy, please come in and we will be happy to provide you with one. We hope that you enjoy the new edition and we would welcome any gardening questions you have. This year you can also follow us on Twitter @parklandgarden.

Garden Art

By Bill Birse

A while back, we decided to undertake a small project in our garden. A water pond. It resulted in a small slough about eight feet in diameter and two feet deep with a trickling waterfall about four feet high. I believe the Dickson Dam was completed in a shorter time than our 'small' project.

Idea number one: Start small.

Our ambition was to turn our yard into a sanctuary—a place where we could rest on our garden bench in the sunset, beverage in hand, reflecting on the day. So, after the pond was completed, we wanted to trim it with various pieces of ornamental statuary. My wife enjoyed angels so that became our theme.

Idea number two: Decide on a theme, remembering that eclectic is always an option.

Once a theme is chosen, the hunt is on. This can include scouring the countryside, exploring for various items, and checking out the wonderful selection of statuary at Parkland Nurseries and Garden Centre.

Idea number three: Enjoy collecting - and never stop.

When my wife had a special birthday, I invited our friends for a potluck/barbecue. As a gift, I suggested that they could bring a rock to complete our long delayed water pond. We received rocks from Cape Spear, the Queen Charlottes (as they were called then), Dawson City and many, many places in between. Talk about coast to coast to coast. As a result, when we scanned our pond for our goldfish, we were able to reminisce about friends and neighbours and this wonderful country of Canada.

It was fascinating to watch the statuary ornamentation standing boldly in the spring, becoming a natural part of the garden in the summer and creating an entirely different motif with the autumn colours.

Thought number four: Create you own ideas - and have fun. Never forget the having fun part!

And if you need help, look no further than the staff at Parkland.



- #1 START SMALL
- #2 DECIDE ON A THEME
- #3 ENJOY COLLECTING
- #4 CREATE YOUR OWN IDEAS

Fragrance Gardens

By Jock MacKenzie

There are more and more “Aroma Free Zone” signs appearing all over. In your own garden, it’s refreshing to be able to make scents-ible decisions. And if you want wonderful aromas as well as gorgeous sights, the questions of where, when, and what need to be answered.

Where?

Fragrances in your garden can be arranged to suit individual needs and circumstances. If you plant the annual, Evening Scented Stock, along a walkway or beneath a bedroom window, the appreciation of its aroma can be enjoyed each time you walk past or from the comfort of your bed. If Woolly Thyme is planted in your rock garden or between the stones in a walkway, and because the scent is released by brushing the leaves, each time you kneel to weed or walk past, you’ll be rewarded.

On your deck or patio, hanging baskets or planters can be arranged near your chairs or benches. Pinks (aka Dianthus) bloom from mid-Spring to mid-Summer and some varieties of Daylily (aka Hyperion), which bloom daily in Summer, are two popular choices. Other choices for your yard include:

FLOWERS

Gasplant

blooms in early Summer

Lily-of-the-Valley

spreads quickly so may be best in a planter or contained area

Peony

blooms late Spring to early Summer

Garden Phlox

a tall plant, blooms all Summer

Primrose (auricula)

blooms early to late Spring

FOLIAGE

Bee Balm

great for attracting hummingbirds

Russian Sage

low maintenance, drought resistant, blooms Summer to Fall



When?

Fragrances can be timed by season as well as time of day. Most plants emit their strongest aromas at midday while others are most notable in the evening.

Flowers and foliage listed in the “Where” category can be planted to release aromas from early Spring to late Fall.

In roses, fragrance is a recessive trait, so if you’re looking (or smelling) for the most fragrant, try these:

Hardy Roses

Blanc Double de Coubert (white)

Jens Munk (pink)

Hansa (fuschia pink)

Teresa Bugnet (pink)

Pavement roses (wide color choice)

Tea Roses

Fragrant Cloud (orange-red)

Abraham Darby (pink)

White Pascalli (white)

Double Delight (red blend)

L.D. Braithwaite (red)

What?

The choices for a fragrant garden include annuals and perennials, flowers and foliage, and shrubs and trees.

Perhaps the best-known shrub is the lilac of which there are numerous varieties. If you prefer a non-suckering variety in a smaller lilac, try Miss Kim. If bigger is your style, go for Pochontas.

Other possibilities include:

Siberian Crabapple – with a fragrant white Spring flower

Daphne – a shrub that blooms in early Spring

Linden – big trees with small flowers that smell like honey

Mayday – extremely fragrant clusters of white flowers, blooms from May to early June

Mockorange – emits a citrus aroma, comes in many varieties

Given the where, the when and what, the fragrance garden will bring joy from early Spring until late Fall. But what about Winter? Drying one's garden flowers for pot pourri can solve this problem so save your peony and rose petals and beebalm leaves and... stay tuned for an upcoming newsletter entry on Making Your Own Pot Pourri.

Greening Those Brown Areas in the Lawn

by John Burnham

As Winter gives way to Spring, the anguished cry "What can I do about those brown spots?" is heard from lawn keepers throughout the land. If you are one of those, here are a few suggestions:

The easiest thing you can do is nothing. Eventually, rain and watering will wash the materials that killed the grass away and the spot will fill in. The entire process can be viewed from your lawn chair but there is no telling how long it will take. Next year's snow could arrive before the new grass does.

A pro-active approach is to make the damaged areas hospitable to grass again by applying a product like "Salt Stopper" from Turf Revolution. It will neutralize the urea (deposited by pets) or salt (from sidewalk de-icing products) that killed the grass. The treated places instantly become amenable to re growth. The problem here is growth of what. If we were talking about your garden, you'd have grass with deep tenacious roots tomorrow. But, this is your lawn. Nature doesn't like expanses of undifferentiated plants; she likes variety. The plats you've cleansed will likely sprout a variety of flora.

The only predictable approach is to reseed: After using a product like Salt Stopper, loosen the top 2-3 inches of soil and rake until the particles are somewhere between pea and marble size. Spread a mixture of mulch, starter fertilizer and grass seed over the area. Then, keep the patch moist until grass appears.

For the ultimate in ease and surety of results, you can use a product that is made for the job like "Patch Master" by Scotts. It's a preparation of neutralizer, fertilizer, mulch and seed. All you do is scratch up the spot, lay down about half an inch of the mix and keep it moist. As an added bonus, the stuff is green! From a few feet away, you won't ever know the brown was there.



2012 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!

JUNE

Ask the Expert - Ponds with Jason Caumartin from Laguna

Learn from the expert all about building a garden pond and the equipment needed. This Q & A session will answer all your questions. Please call 403-346-5613 to register or for information.

Cost: FREE

Saturday, May 12 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Xeriscaping - *RESCHEDULED from April 4*

Have you ever dreamed of a low maintenance garden? With our world going "green", a great place to start is in our own yard! Xeriscaping can reduce the time spent working in your yard and increase the time spent enjoying it! Attend this course and you will learn how to Xeriscape your yard starting with the basics. Please call 403-346-5613 to register or for information.

Cost: \$40.00 plus GST

Thursday, June 21 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Herbs - *RESCHEDULED from April 14*

Grow your own culinary herb garden. In this course you will not only learn about different types of herbs available to grow and the different products and techniques to grow a successful herb garden, but you will also take home a starter garden of your own making. Guest Speaker – Peter Johnston-Berresford, M.Sc., Olds College Please call 403-346-5613 to register or for information.

Cost: \$40.00 plus GST

Saturday, June 23 10:00 am to Noon

JULY

Queen of Flowers – The Rose

Alfred will share his deep love of this Queen of Flowers and reveal his secrets to a beautiful rose garden to enhance your own garden. From the old to the new, this course will explore the kingdom of the rose through colourful slides and a guided tour of the many varieties of roses in our display gardens and sales areas.

Cost: \$15.00 plus GST

Saturday, July 7 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Food From Your Yard Workshop – Martin Scholz Guest Instructor

Plan an edible landscape. Learn no-dig, no weed easy setups for great veggies and fruit. Let your yard work for you. Martin Scholz of Sustain for Life will give you the tools and information you need to get started affordably. Learn how to apply permaculture principles and community opportunities. Bring an 8.5 x 11 top view of your yard in square meters.

Register Online: www.sustainforlife.net or phone 403-346-8026

Cost: \$80.00/person \$120.00/couple (1 set materials)

Saturday, July 21 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

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JULY

Private Garden Tour

View some spectacular hidden horticultural highlights in and around Red Deer. Travel in a luxury coach accompanied by our staff to guide you through and answer all your questions regarding these beautiful yards and gardens. Come dressed for the weather, wear your good walking shoes, and bring your camera!

Please call 403-346-5613 to register or for information.

Cost: \$40.00 plus GST

Wednesday, July 25 5:45 pm to 9:00 pm

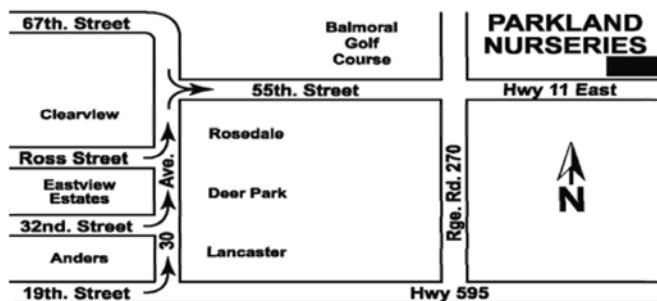
REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Payment must be made in full at time of registration. Visa, MasterCard, Interac, or cash accepted. Prices do not include GST. Class sizes are limited, pre-registration required, adults only unless otherwise noted.

REFUND ISSUED ONLY IF CLASS IS CANCELLED.

For more information call Parkland Garden Centre at 403.346.5613
email info@parklandgc.ca or visit our website www.parklandgarden.ca.

LIMITED SPACE!! REGISTER EARLY!



Twitter [@ParklandGarden](https://twitter.com/ParklandGarden)
Web www.parklandgarden.ca
Phone 403-346-5613
E-mail info@parklandgc.ca

**Green up your lawn with
"Patch Master" by Scotts.**

\$2.00 off regular price 2 kg bag with this coupon

Expires May 31, 2012. Limit one coupon per customer.

Parkland
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