

# Parkland Nurseries Garden Centre Ltd.

## Garden Club Newsletter

Volume 17, Issue 4

Winter 2004



*Dear Fellow Gardeners*

*The winter season is fast approaching! Time to relax and reflect on your gardening plans for next season. But gardening does not need to come to a stand still! Now is the time to concentrate on your houseplants and start seedlings for your garden and plan your yard.*

*Business hours are: Monday – Saturday 9:00 am until 6:00 pm*

*Sunday 11:00 am until 5:00 pm*

### Indoor plants

Winter is upon us and you are pondering what to do next.

Why not plan some landscaping inside your home this winter? Add some wonderful tropical plants to your décor along with some blooming plants to drive away the winter blues. For an exotic feel, add some orchids! They are surprisingly easy to grow!

There are many excellent foliage plants, even for those areas with less light. Indoor plants are an excellent air filter and generate oxygen, so it is a healthy choice as well. Take a trip to Parkland Garden Centre and see our selection and let us assist you in creating your own tropical paradise.

### Holiday in the house courses

Saturday, December 4, 2004

**Just a little nip** – 9:30 am until 10:30 am

Course fee \$10.00 plus GST

Learn how to prune your trees and shrubs.

From evergreens to fruit trees we will cover the basics and give you hints on which ones can be used for crafts. Dress for the weather!

Saturday, December 4, 2004

**Half lit (or how not to be)**

9:30 am until 10:30 am

Course fee \$10.00 plus GST

Have you ever wondered how we create such stunning Christmas tree displays? We will share some of our in-store secrets from “fluffing” your tree to proper lighting and how to display your ornaments for the best effect.

Take a break from the Christmas rush and join us for one or more of our Christmas hands-on seminars.

From pruning to making bows we will provide all the supplies and know-how you will need to “spruce” up your home for the holidays.

Hot apple cider will keep participants warm and festive.

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Our **Garden Spirits** workshop was such a tremendous hit last time that we have been asked to do it again! We will be hosting 3 separate workshops. **Dates are as follows:** Saturday, **December 4, 2004**, Saturday, **March 19, 2005** and Saturday, **August 13, 2005**. Please call 346-5613 for more information and we will be more than happy to mail you a course brochure.

**Parkland Nurseries & Garden Centre Ltd. – Garden Club newsletter**

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**Holiday in the house courses**

Saturday, December 4, 2004  
**Roll out the barrel** – 10:45 am until 12:15 pm  
 Course fee \$20.00 plus GST  
 Do not put away your flower containers. We will show you how to dress them for the holiday season with fresh greens and trimmings from your own trees along with great holiday silks. Take your created swag home for your door!

Saturday, December 4, 2004  
**Tie one on** – 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm  
 Course fee \$15.00 plus GST  
 Learn how to make beautiful bows and great ways to use ribbon and garland to unite the Christmas theme throughout your home. Take your creation home!

Saturday, December 4, 2004  
**Basket case** – 2:45 pm until 3:45 pm  
 Course fee \$30.00 plus GST  
 We will show you how to make up a festive wicker dish garden with Christmas plants and accessories to make a truly unique living gift. Take your creation home!

Saturday, December 4, 2004  
**All aglow** – 4:00 pm until 5:30 pm  
 Course fee \$30.00 plus GST  
 We will teach you how to make a festive arrangement, and more, with candles to add that warm flickering glow to your Christmas décor. Go home with a completed arrangement!

Sunday, Dec 5, 2004 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm and Saturday, Dec 18, 2004 10:00 am until 11:30 pm – your choice of day! Course fee \$45.00 plus GST **A round for the house**  
 Nothing beats the scent of real evergreen boughs. We will help you complete your own wreath of fresh BC evergreens with decorations to match your décor. Take your creation home!

Sunday, Dec 5, 2004 10:00 am until 11:30 pm and Saturday, Dec 18, 2004 1:00 pm until 2:30 pm – your choice of day! Course fee \$30.00 plus GST **A festive appetizer**  
 Just in time for your family Christmas dining! We will show you how to make a fresh fragrant centerpiece for your Christmas table using preserved fruits and vegetables, fresh evergreens and more. Your centerpiece will be nice and fresh for your Christmas guests to marvel over!

**Parkland's course registration form**

Name _____ Res (Phone) _____ Bus _____			Visa or M/C Please circle one
Mailing address _____ Postal code _____			Card number _____
Course title	Date	Fee	Start date _____
_____	_____	_____	Expiry date _____
_____	_____	_____	Or please enclose cheque for course(s) payable to Parkland Garden Centre
_____	_____	_____	
All courses must be pre-registered and paid in advance			NO POST DATED CHEQUES PLEASE
		Total _____	

You may phone in payment using VISA or MASTERCARD at (403) 346-5613
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Registration and fees should be brought to Parkland Nurseries & Garden Centre located on Highway 11 East of Red Deer



## Upcoming events

Craft and Market Sales

Saturday, November 13, 20 and 27

Saturday, December 11, 2004

All sales run from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm

Red Deer Chamber of Commerce

Business After Hours

Tuesday, November 30, 2004

5:00 pm until 7:00 pm

Ladies Night

Thursday, December 2, 2004

7:00 pm until 9:00 pm **RSVP only**

Tickets are on sale now!

Limited quantities

SPCA Pet Pictures with Santa

Sunday, November 21 and 28, 2004

Both run from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm

## Prairie winters

Prairie winters can be hard on all plants in our gardens. Evergreens always seem to take the brunt of Old Man Winter's fury. We can soften the blow by protecting tender evergreens, cedars, spruce, pine and newly planted junipers from the drying effects of winter's harsh winds and chinooks.

Burlap is often used to protect evergreens during the winter. The best way is to build a "tent" around the plant, leaving 15-20 cm (6"-8") between the burlap and the plant to maximize protection. Another way to protect all evergreens from winter injury is a product called "Cloud Cover" by Easy Gardener. This product is used to cover the entire plant with a waxy coating so that the needles cannot lose moisture. Spray plants with an even coating of "Cloud Cover" in mid-November and again in mid-February for best results.

"Cloud Cover" can also be used to keep Christmas trees and greens looking great and staying fresher longer.

## Winter plant protection

It is wonderful to be able to look out your window and see deer frolicking in the snow and rabbit tracks running across your lawn. But, sometimes wildlife can be a problem when they eat our plants.

Fruit trees, cedars, roses and dogwood are favorite snacks for wildlife.

There are a few products to make our ornamental plants less appealing to wildlife. "Skoot" by Plant Products Company Limited repels rabbits, deer and mice. For mice and rabbits paint the main stems, for deer spray on as many branches as possible.

Please note that "Skoot" can only be used on dormant woody plants. "Skoot" can also be used on fence posts and landscape timbers to deter animals from entering your yards or flowerbeds.

"Plantskydd" is another product that will repel deer, moose, rabbits, mice and porcupine. This product can be applied to any plant surface and can last up to four months.

Both products are best applied in early November and again in early February for best results.

 Parkland  
Garden Centre

Garden Club Gift

**\$1.00 off**  
**a regular priced**  
**6" Poinsettia**

Coupon must be presented before time of purchase

Limit one coupon per person  
Valid while quantities last  
Expires December 14, 2004

## Christmas trees

Evergreen trees such as fir, pine, etc are grown specifically in nurseries for the Christmas season. This eliminates the need to cut existing trees in a wilderness environmental setting. It takes approximately seven years to produce one Christmas tree. Every time you buy a Christmas tree, one is planted to replace it!

Here are the main types of cut live trees:

1. **Fir** – There are three very common firs. The Fraser Fir, the Balsam Fir and the Douglas Fir. These are very fragrant making them a wonderful addition to the household. They hold their needles well and last longer than other trees. Balsams have needles that grow somewhat “flat” on the branch while Fraser’s have more of a “bottle brush” look. Fraser’s also tend to be the thickest and bushiest of Christmas trees. Fraser Firs have become very popular recently due to their blue coloring.
2. **Pine** – The most common pine used is the Scott’s Pine also referred to as the Scotch Pine. These are bushy trees with long needles. They can dry up indoor but the needles do not fall as much. It is not as popular as it once use to be. White pines are very soft and exotic with fine needles. The ornaments will however, need to be wired on.

For the best selection of Christmas trees, come and visit Parkland Garden Centre!  
We also carry larger sized Christmas trees for any space big or small.



**Poinsettias**

Poinsettias are native to Mexico and Central America where they grow to be large shrubs with woody stems.

They are related to cathedral cactus, crown of thorns, cushion spurge and many other euphorbias.

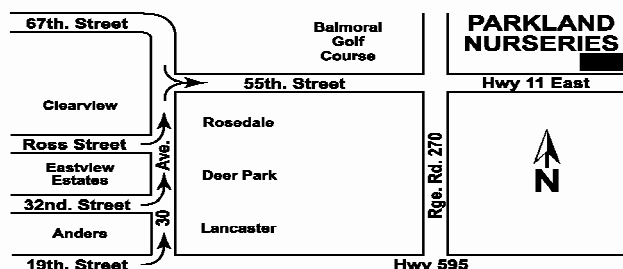
They require long nights and short sunny days after the fall equinox (September 21<sup>st</sup>) to bring on flowering. Any interfering lights after sundown even the stray light from a streetlight shining in the window can prevent flowering.

Parkland Garden Centre carries about 30 different varieties of poinsettias, in a least 10 different colours, many sizes and beautiful dazzling combinations.

They will be ready about mid-November. Remember it is not Christmas until you have been to Parkland!

Parkland Garden Centre also has a very nice selection of giftware and candles.  
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Exciting news!!! L&D Hut will be at Parkland Garden Centre on Saturday, December 18, 2004 for order pick-ups and some sales!



Parkland Garden Centre publishes the Garden Club Newsletter articles are written and edited by the “Specialists” of Parkland Garden Centre

Subscription is free

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at:

Parkland Nurseries & Garden Centre

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