



IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

LAST WEEK FOR APRICOTS!

FEATURED THIS WEEK: Fall mums are in!

GARDEN TIP OF THE WEEK: Fall is for planting because.....

Aug. 14th E-NEWS

We're almost at the middle of August and for me that means I have to be thinking **Spring 2015**. The rose orders are complete and have been sent in, fruit tree orders are underway and it won't be long before I have to pre-book the rest of plants we want for next spring. So if you have a plant 'wish list' and want me to try to find a plant you've been looking for, email or phone to let me know. (If your name is already in our order book, I'm already on the lookout for what you want.)

Mid-August for most of us means thinking about 'Back to School', getting back into the regular stuff-of-life after a summer hiatus, and making the transition from summer into fall. That transition is happening in our market and garden center as well. **Fall mums are here** and ornamental cabbage/kale is on order for next week.



In our **Apple Lane Gift Shop**, new **fall fashions** are starting to arrive and we just got in a shipment of **fall handbags**. Drop in to see what's new and remember to check out our clearance of summer fashions, accessories and jewelry priced to clear at 50% off.

Another transition for us is that there will be staffing changes this fall. **Carissa VanderHoek**, our In-Store Manager and Cashier Extraordinaire, is leaving us to go to OUC. **Robyn Chagun**, whose smiling face has welcomed many of you to the

market the last few years, is leaving us to move to Vancouver where her husband will continue his university education. She's been working at CIBC this spring and summer but continued to come in on Saturdays to work in our market. I know that life goes on, but quite frankly, we are going to miss these two amazing young women!!! In a seasonal business like ours, staff changes are inevitable but we've been SO blessed to have many of our staff return to us year after year.

With Carissa and Robyn leaving, there may be other changes as well as we move people about to fill positions this fall and next spring. With that in mind, if working in a garden center/fruit market/gift store is your idea of a dream job, we may need to hire new personnel, so drop off a resume with attn. James or Harriet Hanna.

We've picked the first of this season's apples (Early Duchess) and will be picking Earligold by the end of next week. (I had one today and it was pretty good. Maybe I can get someone to pick some for the market earlier than that!) The Paula Reds are almost ready, too - maybe in two weeks. While we don't grow Transparents or Sunrise, we have both of them in stock right now for those of you who are anxious to make some pies or sauce.

I have a quick and easy **Apple Crisp recipe** that I like to make at this time of year because it can be baked in the microwave so it doesn't heat the kitchen. All you have to do is peel, core and slice about 6-9 apples (tangy, early apples like the Duchess, Transparent, and Earligold are great for this) into a 9 to 10 inch glass

(microwaveable) pie plate, add a bit of cinnamon and sugar to taste, and then top with the crumb crust mixture.

In a separate bowl mix:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup margarine or butter

1 cup golden brown sugar

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup rolled oats

1 cup flour

Cream the butter and sugar together and then add the rolled oats and flour, mixing with your fingers until the mixture is crumbly. Scatter over the apple mixture and bake in the microwave on High for 8-10 minutes. Of course, this same recipe is great if baked in the oven at 350°F for about an hour. So easy, and yummy, too.



GARDEN TIP OF THE WEEK : Fall is for Planting!

Every year at about this time, I start extolling the virtues of fall planting. I feel like a broken record sometimes - playing the same tune over and over again. But so many people still don't 'get' why fall is for planting that I think it's important to mention it again.

Fall is for planting because:

1. Soil temperatures are *warm* (unlike spring) which means that *root growth is faster and plants establish more quickly*. Soil is usually also in good condition (not too wet or compacted), so that it's easier to work-much nicer for you!
2. Cooler night temperatures *reduce the incidence of wilting and transplant issues*. Also shorter days mean that the plants are exposed to less drying sunlight.
3. Many plants are starting to harden-off to get ready for winter, so they're *no longer in such active growth as they were with spring*

planting. Roots, on the other hand, grow more quickly at this time of year.

4. *Fall rains and heavy dews* help to alleviate the need for continual watering.
5. *Insects are less active* in fall - nicer for the plants and for you.
6. Fall planting should *ideally be done at least 6 weeks before the onset of cold* (winter -type) weather. So early September is ideal for planting in our area.



Speaking of fall planting, we've already had some folks wondering when the **fall bulbs** will be arriving. I've ordered them to arrive *the last week of August* so they should be here before the Labour Day weekend.

The last few years we've been putting all of our 'below standard' nursery stock (trees, shrubs, vines, fruit trees, small fruits or perennials) in a **'Plant Blow-out Sale'**, marking them *way down* to encourage plant junkies and those who can't pass up a good deal to buy them and give them a good home. Of course, we're doing it again! Whether you're starting a new landscape project or augmenting what you already have, we may just have the 'less-than-perfect' plant for you! Some may look like 'Charlie Brown' trees, but there's lots of potential in each plant.

If you've harvested sections of your veggie garden or raised beds leaving empty spots where nothing (other than weeds) is growing, be sure to plant **cover crops** like fall rye or buckwheat that can be worked into the soil next spring as a 'green manure' to provide organic matter and nutrients.

It's also time to **sow seeds of fast-maturing crops** like radishes and green leafy vegetables (spinach, lettuce, mustards, and Mesclun mix) for tasty, fresh salads this fall. The drought in California continues which means that prices of many of our favourite salad greens will be going up again this fall and winter.

because you'll be working with concrete.



Our next workshop is making **Sandcast Bird Baths** and is coming up on Saturday, August 23rd at 11:00 a.m. This is one of most popular workshops and birdbaths made last year were stunning!! This year we'll use some huge Petasites leaves to provide the leaf shape, and once the



form is dry, paint them whatever colour we choose before we seal them against the elements. (Truthfully, I've been trying to eradicate the petasites for a number of years because it is **INVASIVE** but since that hasn't been very successful, at least the leaves have a good use!!) The workshop on the 23rd is full, but we've started a list of those who would like to attend a second session. We haven't got a date yet, but I'll let you know in next week's newsletter when it will be. In the meantime, if you'd like to take this workshop, get your name on the waiting list. The fee is \$29 + GST and includes all supplies. We do ask that you wear gloves and work clothes

FEATURED THIS WEEK

Aug. 15st – Aug. 21st

Giftware Clearance Sale:

This week 30% off Sale Price

Nursery stock: 25% off

(Throughout August all trees, shrubs, roses, perennials, vines, fruit trees and small fruits will be at least 25% off.)

PLANT* 'BLOW-OUT' SALE:

(*Need some TLC) **50 to 75% OFF**

All Garden Décor (one more week only): 45% off

Summer Fashions, Jewelry 50% off

LAST WEEK FOR APRICOTS!!

We have BC free-stone Peaches, Nectarines, Staccato and Sentennial Cherries, fresh apples, local strawberries, local corn and garlic, and Aldergrove Blueberries.

Have a good week,

Harriet

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