

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

→ **Plants of the week: Summer daisies**

→ **Gardening Tips: Summer pruning**

→ **B.C Fruit: Peaches, Apricots, Cherries, Apples, Raspberries**

→ **FEATURES THIS WEEK: Perennials 40% off**

### July 28th E-NEWS

Open 8-6 daily, 1-5 on Sundays

The end of July is almost here so that means our July Discount Days are coming to an end. **Our deeply discounted items this week are the perennials** (Rock Stars, Jeepers Creepers, all Sun and Shade varieties, ornamental grasses and bamboos, and hardy water plants) **which are discounted at 40% off the regular price!** I know you've been waiting for them to come on sale so here's your chance to stock up and still get to enjoy them for the rest of the growing season.

It's been a busy week so I'm going to repeat some timely items from a newsletter two years ago. The information doesn't grow stale so I hope you won't mind me taking the easy route this week.

#### Plants of the week: Summer blooming daisies



Other than daylilies, there is no other single group of perennials that has bragging rights, as do the daisies. when it comes to providing

summer colour. Coreopsis (tickseed) echinaceas (coneflowers), heleniums (sneezeweeds), helianthus (perennials sunflower), heliopsis (false sunflower), and rudbeckias (black eyed susans) all share some common characteristics:

- \*they all bloom best in full sun
- \*they bloom at hot temperatures
- \*all are easy to grow and are hardy
- \*many are deer and rabbit resistant
- \*all attract butterflies
- \*they don't require heavy fertilizing
- \*most are good cut flowers
- \*there are varieties that grow less

than 12 inches high and others that grow over 6 feet tall, so there are varieties for every application in the garden except deep shade.

If your garden is looking less than wonderful right now, you **NEED** summer-blooming daisies. We have at least 50 varieties in stock and most are in bloom so you can see just what they look like.

Be sure to provide mulch for newly planted echinaceas the first fall after planting to enhance winter survival. After that, the roots should be well-established and they'll continue to take centre stage for many years in your summer garden. To learn more about these plants go [to www.perennials.com](http://www.perennials.com)

#### GARDEN TIPS: Summer Pruning

Deciduous trees are pruned, *for the most part*, in spring while they are still dormant. Exceptions to this rule include oaks and honey-locusts, which are most susceptible to fungal diseases in spring so should be pruned when weather is reliably warm and

dry, and another group of trees that 'bleed' heavily if cut while dormant. This group includes maples, birches, and walnuts which should be **pruned when they are in full leaf**.

**Fruit trees** are also deciduous trees and it is common practice among commercial fruit growers to prune their trees in winter and early spring while the trees are dormant. As a result, most gardeners believe that winter is the 'proper' time to prune. The fact of the matter is that winter is when the orchardist has the time to prune but it is **not** necessarily the best time to prune. Horticulturally, the most effective method to control growth is **summer pruning**, not dormant pruning. Trees get ready for winter by storing nutrients and energy from the tree canopy to the root system until the following spring. Dormant pruning removes part of the canopy and in the spring when the nutrients return to the now smaller canopy from the roots, there is an excess of nutrients, which results in a huge growth response (namely lots of suckers or water sprouts). If, however, the tree is summer-pruned (late July- early August in our area), the size of the canopy is reduced which means that the amount of nutrients stored in the root system over winter is also reduced. The stored nutrients are therefore equal to the size of the canopy in the spring and as a result there is NOT a huge growth response. Size and vigor of the tree is controlled. It makes perfect sense and if you have only a few fruit trees to deal with, summer pruning is ideal. If you want to learn more, Google 'Summer pruning of fruit trees' and check out some of the informative websites like [www.crfg.org/tidbits/backyardorchard.html](http://www.crfg.org/tidbits/backyardorchard.html).

The **principles of tree pruning** are the same for **all** deciduous trees and what I've just explained with regard to summer pruning of fruit trees applies to other deciduous trees as well. So if you would like to have better size and vigor control, remember to summer prune, rather than dormant prune, your deciduous trees.

Of course, no amount of summer pruning is going to completely control the growth of a plant that is genetically programmed to grow to size much larger than the one you have allotted for it in your garden. If you are having to continually prune

back a plant to keep it within in bounds, that is a very good indicator that it's the wrong plant for that spot and really should be removed! I'm a staunch supporter of the 'Right Plant, Right Place' philosophy and while I will prune some plants, I don't want to be a slave to pruning! Choose plants that are appropriate for the conditions and size of site; your plants (and you) will be better for it.

## JULY DISCOUNT DAYS

The discounts listed below are in effect throughout the month of July.

**All annuals are CLEARANCE PRICED:**  
6" pots and smaller.....Half Price  
Hanging Tomato baskets...Half Price  
Hanging Baskets & planters..40% off

**Shrubs, trees, perennials and vines are 25% off during July** (except special orders, items on 'hold', or otherwise advertised).

Have a wonderful summer,  
*Harriet*

**HANNA ORCHARDS MARKET  
& GARDEN CENTRE**

3181-11<sup>TH</sup> Ave. NE., Salmon Arm, BC

**Open Mon.-Sat. 8-6:00**

**Open Sundays 1-5**

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will thrive.