



July 20th E-NEWS

**You know its summer
when...**

the peaches are ripe!



Early Red Havens Now In!

WE ALSO HAVE;

Bing, Lapin, & Lambert Cherries

Tomcot and Goldbar Apricots

Raspberries

And Transparent Apples

GARDEN TIP OF THE WEEK: Leaf-cutter bees



Every year about this time we get questions about what's causing leaf damage such as that in the picture above. The culprits are leaf-cutter bees but tolerating some damage is a small price to pay for the good these beneficial insects do in the garden. They're native bees and are important pollinators. Because they're solitary, not colonizing bees, they aren't aggressive because they don't have a colony to protect. They sting only if handled.



Leaf cutter bees cut neat oval or circular pieces from the edges of thin leaves to fashion into

egg chambers; the longer cuts are for the wall of the chamber and the circular cuts are used to seal off the ends. The female bees do all the work of rearing the young including digging out the nesting areas (in soft material like rotted wood that can be easily cut through and tunneled), creating the nest cells and providing food (a mixture of pollen and nectar) within the egg chamber for the larvae to eat after they hatch. Packed closely together, one after the other, the cells look a lot like a cigar when complete. Adult females lay up to 40 eggs during the two months they're alive. The young bees develop within the cells and remain there until emerging the following year.



The damage they cause can admittedly be cause for concern if it's concentrated in one area or on one particular plant but, in general, damage is confined to a few favourite plants (roses, green ash, lilac and Virginia creeper) and usually isn't so extensive as to defoliate a plant.

Given that Colony Collapse Disorder has become a problem in honey bee populations, the solitary native bees, like the leaf cutter bees, orchard mason bees and carpenter bees, are crucial for pollination and crop production. If you'd like to learn more about these fascinating creatures check out the links below:

Attracting solitary bees to your garden:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YzNSjmZ3Wg>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mTRhEypLT5k&feature=related>

Here's a simple Bee Condo:

<http://www.cwf-fcf.org/en/resources/magazines/wild/wild-classes/grade-5/building-a-bee-condo.html>

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).

'DEEP DISCOUNT' feature plants this week are **hydrangeas** and **ornamental grasses** @ **40% off.**

Have a wonderful summer,
Harriet

**HANNA ORCHARDS MARKET
 & GARDEN CENTRE**

3181-11TH Ave. NE., Salmon Arm, BC

Open Mon.-Sat. 8-6:00

Open Sundays 1-5

(250) 832 4574

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