

The Village Garden Center's Garden Club Newsletter

January 2010



Happy New Year



New Year's Gardening Resolutions

1. **Be Prepared**

Resolve to spend time this winter reviewing last year's garden. Decide which plants did best and which ones you don't want to grow again.

2. **Do Some Dreaming**

Resolve to go through the new catalogs and magazines and make a dream list, then decide which plants you can reasonably manage.

3. **New Beds**

Resolve to plan on paper where you could use a new bed. Check for sun and shade areas and look for drainage issues. Make sure it looks good on paper before you start digging.

GARDEN CLUB SPECIALS - February
30% off for Garden Club Members Only
Fresh Valentine Arrangement
Spring Silk Stems (limit 3)

4. **Old Beds**

Resolve to decide which plants need to be moved and transplanted. Choose any plants that need to be taken out completely and decide what will go in the empty space.

5. **Water Conservation**

Resolve to use plants that will thrive in your gardens without having to be watered more than once a week. Some plants love a drier area, while some like to get their feet wet.

Always read tags and the information that comes with the plant material to assist you with your choices.

6. **Flowering Plants**

Resolve to use both annual and perennial flowering plants in your beds. Use annuals for instant color and perennials for longevity and to save money in the years to come.

7. **Vegetable Plants**

Resolve to grow vegetable plants not only in the vegetable garden but also in containers and mixed in your flower beds. Vining vegetables, like cucumbers and squash, can be grown as ground cover, where as bean can be grown as climber on an arbor or trellis.

*Did you know..***When your hands are badly stained from gardening, add a teaspoon of sugar to the lather you are washing them in.**

The January garden club meeting will be on January 16th, at 10:00 a.m. The store will be closed on that day, but we will still have our meeting. The scheduled topic for that day is new annuals for 2010. Bring your books so that you can take notes!

8. **Be Kind to the Earth**

Resolve to use earth friendly products in your yard. Think twice before using an insect killer or a harmful product to treat diseases on plants. Always use mulch and use your compost pile as much as possible.

9. **Wear a Hat**

Resolve to wear a hat and sunscreen whenever you are outside gardening. The damage you do today will effect your gardening adventures in your future.

10. **Try Something New**

Resolve to get out of your old gardening rut. If you have always grown bright red geraniums in your front yard try a color like lavender. Or if you have always grown white flowers how about trying a little bit of color? There is always next year to start over. Live a little....grow something different.

11. **Bring a Friend to Garden Club**

Resolve to bring a friend or relative with you to the next garden club meeting. It's a great way to make new fiends and gain valuable information. Plus....it's a lot of fun! We would love to have some new members.

Did you know.. **Most variegated plants are actually mutations. Chlorophyll is the green pigment needed for photosynthesis. In variegated leaves, the cells that are genetically unable to produce this pigment appear white. A variegated plant will grow more slowly because of its reduced ability to produce food energy.**



Did you know.. **In 1887 a snowflake 15 inches wide and 8 inches thick fell at Fort Keough, Montana**

Village Garden Center will be closed from January 10th through February 5th. We will be reopening with new spring merchandise, and we will be ready for Valentine's Day!

Did you know.. **The snow capital of the United States is Stampede Pass in Washington State. Each year the average snowfall is 430 inches!**

