



The Vineyard Gardener

"Earth here is so kind that just tickle her with a hoe and she laughs with a harvest"

Douglas William Jerrold

Fall 2011

◆ **Huge End of Season Sale!**

All Perennials, Trees & Shrubs
30-50% off!

Many more in-house specials

◆ **Harvest Festival**

11 am—3 pm

Saturday October 8th

Food~Tours~Raffle~Activities

Christmas Trees

& Holiday Decorations

arriving November 28th

Cut Trees & Live Trees

Plant your tree and enjoy it all year

Remember!

Every Tuesday is

Senior Discount Day

20% discount for those 62 years
young

check our website for more
special discount days!

SPRING BULBS ARE HERE!

The first flowers to bloom in the spring are the bulbs. The snowdrops, daffodils, tulips and grape hyacinths, just to name a few, must be planted in the fall—and they have arrived at our garden center. Just when you feel like you can't take another minute without seeing a flower they will appear in your garden, woodland border or even your lawn, if you take the time to plant them now.

Bulbs are specialized structures that enable a plant to survive unfavorable weather. They contain the stem and leaves, swollen with stored food inside. Bulbs and bulb-like structures are durable, easy to handle and sure to produce flowers in the spring. We recommend massing the same bulb together or combining them with another bulb that blooms at the same time. They look great with early blooming perennials like creeping phlox or candytuft and with early blooming shrubs like forsythia, azaleas or rhododendrons. Grape hyacinths under a blooming crabapple are sure to be a picture of beauty. They also combine nicely with pansies and violas. With the cool weather in the spring they all seem to bloom for a long time. If you want to hide the bulb foliage after they are done blooming try combining them with hostas, daylilies or ornamental grasses. So don't wait! Come and see our fabulous selection of Spring Bulbs now available at Vineyard Gardens. Here is a list of deer resistant bulbs:

Daffodils* Crocus* Camassia* Fritillaria* Scilla* Colchicum

Leucojum* Snow Drops* Species Tulips

ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL

Do not miss our annual Harvest Festival Columbus Day Weekend Saturday from 11 am-3pm. It will be a great day filled with fun for the whole family! There will be nature projects for kids and adults. It's a great way to learn, hands on. Get those kids off the computers and making bird feeders and planting fragrant bulbs instead.

Eat your fill of our traditional refreshments such as home made chili, jalapeno corn bread, hot dogs, pumpkin pie and caramel apples; offered free of charge for all of our wonderful customers to enjoy. Come and see the beautiful fall plant displays featuring colorful foliage and berries, pumpkins and our great selection of spring bulbs. Enjoy a tour of our display gardens. This event is a great horticultural learning experience.

We'll be looking forward to seeing you there!

INVASIVE SPECIES ALERT!!

Japanese knotweed AKA Japanese bamboo—Polygonum cuspidatum

People are wondering what's that white flowering plant growing all over the island. It's commonly called Japanese bamboo although it is not a true bamboo. It gets this nickname because it spreads like bamboo. It will colonize by underground stems and choke out almost all plants, especially smaller less aggressive natives. It is very difficult to control by digging unless every piece of root is removed. A one inch piece of root or stem left behind will regrow. If you are looking to eradicate this plant by digging or pulling you will need to check the area for 2-3 years and remove any new plants. You can also kill it over a 2-3 year period by mowing it at least 2 times a month, April to first frost. Round up also will kill this plant. The best time to apply is while it is in flower in September. Please use caution with this and all pesticides. Read and follow all labels carefully.

To sum up, this is one of our worst invasive plants which should not be allowed to take hold anywhere on the Island.

Hearty Hydrangeas for Fall Color

Do not despair the end of summer and the fading glory of your summer flowering shrubs. There is plenty of color yet to emerge in the garden.

While many people on the island are fans of the summer blooming blue mop-head Hydrangeas, at this time of year their blooms begin to fade and brown out. There is a wide world of Hydrangea varieties out there to enjoy; why limit yourself to **Nikko** and **Endless Summers**? The **PG** Hydrangea cultivars are gorgeous shrubs whose shades of chartreuse to snow white lush flowers add interest in late summer and fall gardens.

Typical to the species, these panicle Hydrangeas grow best planted in good, loamy soil. They require moist soil, but they don't like having wet feet. Also, these Hydrangeas are relatively disease resistant! They can be planted in both sun and partial shade. These shrubs may be enjoyed for their natural habit or bought pruned into a standard tree form. **Quick Fire** is the earliest of the blooming **PG's**. and **'Tardiva'** is one of the latest. At this time of year, the white blooms have turned to a deep, rich pinkish-red. If space is limited in your garden, we carry dwarf varieties: **'Little Lamb'** and **'Little Lime'**. The blooms on these two cultivars are tight and round in shape. A wowing show-stopper is **'Pinky Winky'**. This shrub has long and open petaled panicles, which are now a deep red. Several fade to a beautiful pink.

Stop by the nursery this season to check out our selection!



ORGANIC CRABGRASS CONTROL

Crabgrass is an annual weedy grass very noticeable in late summer. It is setting seed for next year's infestation before it dies from a hard frost. It is typically most problematic in sunny areas, where the existing lawn grass is thin. The best way to control crabgrass is to stop or kill the seeds before they germinate in late spring. While chemical control can be very effective it isn't always the best approach, especially near any body of water or when a more natural approach is desired. Recently it has been found that **corn gluten**-essentially ground up corn cobs-can control crabgrass fairly well if used properly. A side benefit of corn gluten is it's a great source of organic nitrogen, the main nutrient needed for lush green lawns. If applied 2-3 times a year for 2-3 years it should effectively control crabgrass.

Don't forget to fill out your fall checklist!

It is now also available on our website: www.vineyardgardens.net

Vineyard Gardens Contact Information

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Perennials by Division

Any perennial that emerges from the ground with multiple stems can be lifted out of the ground (dug up) and divided (split up) into several smaller clumps, and then replanted. In the fall we recommend you divide your Hostas, Daylilies, Peonies and Iris. Other perennials, especially those that bloom in summer or fall, are best divided in early spring. Spring is a safer time because of the longer fair weather growing season ahead, giving them plenty of time to become root established before they have to deal with the winter. The plants we recommend seem to over-winter without an established root system, because they are bulb-type roots or tubers. Bulbs, tubers and corms store the food needed for spring growth in the tuber, so like the daffodils and tulips, these perennials have in a small packet everything they need to grow in the spring.

When dividing the plants into smaller clumps larger clumps may require quite a bit of force. It is best to tease them apart, rather than cut with a sharp knife. Any cut becomes an opening for bacteria or fungi. Immediately replant the smaller clumps and water them in. Wait until spring to fertilize.