



Issue No.7

Summer 2012

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*Helping you to realize your
garden visions for over a
decade.*

Dear Friends,

It has been an exciting spring at Oriental Garden Supply! Trucks coming and going, bringing great new plants to the nursery. We've also been meeting many new people this year through our first-ever Groupon offer.



Recapping Gardenscape 2012, Oriental Garden Supply, working together with Twin Oaks Lawn and Landscape, garnered an unprecedented number of awards this year including Best of Show. We are pleased so many people visited and enjoyed our garden display and sales booth.



The beautiful waterfalls and pond at the nursery built by Joe Cummings (Water Gardens by Joe Cummings) have been hopping this year, literally! We have lots of bullfrogs keeping the new fish in the pond company. Of interest, we would have had a complete wipeout of the koi this spring by some night visitors if Joe hadn't rescued some of the fish. A family of minks had some great dinners!



We encourage you to come to the nursery and see all the wonderful plants we've brought in. Just a reminder though, we go to summer hours beginning June 30th (9 AM to 4 PM every day except closed on Sundays). We look forward to seeing you here at OGS!
Cheers,

Al Pfeiffer, Owner
Oriental Garden Supply

A rose is a rose is a rose

With summer now here, one always thinks of roses and hydrangeas. At Oriental Garden Supply, we have a good supply of shrub roses for sale, both the Knockout series and the Oso Easy series, and many different varieties of hydrangeas. We encourage you to come out and see.



Summer Planting Thoughts:

Summer is always a difficult time to be planting. The weather is usually hot, people like to go on vacation, but the plants always need attention, especially ones that are in their first season of planting. The first year, when plants are putting out new roots and establishing themselves, is especially critical. If the weather is dry, extra water will be needed. If it's an especially wet season, check to see that your site is not collecting and retaining water. Watering systems with rain sensors are very helpful, but nothing beats checking each new plant personally to see that they are getting the care they deserve. Pay attention to conditions throughout the seasons and protect your investment.

Instead of planting a lot of annuals this year, visit Oriental Garden Supply and find some interesting new plants to enhance your landscape, or even to plant in containers of some sort. We've even got some Japanese maples already planted in "patio squares" or "patio rounds." Here are some other ideas:

Sedums and Succulents - We have a large number of varieties - a few of these cuties planted together makes a practically carefree container garden. We also have a few pre-planted sedum bowls to inspire you.



- **Interested in bonsai?** We have some interesting twisted junipers that can easily be used for your first excursion into the practice of bonsai. We also have lots of other plants that would be great specimens with a little training.
- **Miniature conifers** - We have quite a selection that could be used to plant a container garden with some already planted for inspiration.



- **Perennials** - How about using some heucheras, or ferns, or other perennials, even some of the Japanese forest grasses in your containers this year? They are a

stunning and unusual addition and can be planted out in the garden later on in the fall if you like.



Unusual plants found around the Nursery:

There are many interesting plants to be found at Oriental Garden Supply. We would like to highlight some that have elicited many comments from visitors to the nursery this year.

- **Chinese Sweetshrub (Sinocalycanthus 'Hartlage Wine')** - Deep red wine-colored, camellia-like blossoms in the spring with glossy green leaves that turn yellow in the fall highlight this ornamental shrub. Our full-sized specimen was a stunner this spring! 'Hartlage Wine' is a hybrid between our fragrant native Carolina allspice (*Calycanthus floridus*) and Chinese wax shrub, *Sinocalycanthus chinensis*. It likes partial shade and moist, well-drained soil and can grow to 8 feet high and 6 feet wide at 10 years. Deer resistant, with resistance to disease and insect infestation, zone 5-8.



- **Monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*)** - An evergreen tree native to South America, the scale-like leaves are thick and tough and have sharp edges and tip. They can remain on the tree's symmetrical and sort of reptilian-looking branches for 10 to 15 years. Another interesting fact about this tree is that it won't yield seeds until it is 30 to 40 years old! Unfortunately, it is only hardy to zone 8 and must be protected in our winters.



- **Spiny bear's breeches (*Acanthus spinosus*)** - This is an intriguing perennial with arching, dark green spiny leaves that sends up an upright flower stalk with velvety purple-gray flowers two to three feet above its foliage in early summer. It grows in a wide range of moisture (except wet) and light conditions and is hardy to zone 5. It is definitely a showstopper in the perennial house!



Have you seen any of these in your visits to the nursery?

Upcoming Events

We would love to host your garden group for a visit to Oriental Garden Supply. If you want to learn more about Japanese maples or the other types of plants we have, give us a call or drop us an email. We love to talk plants!

We are also interested in hosting some seminars beginning in the later summer to fall. If you have any ideas or requests for topics or speakers, let us know.



Summer hours beginning June 30th: 9AM to 4 PM, closed Sundays

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