



The Growing Scene

The Growing Scene, Inc. 17015 Harmony Rd, Marengo, Illinois 60152

Volume 14, Issue 1

April/May 2009

**Don't Miss Our
Spring Open House
May 1st, 2nd & 3rd**

LIVING THE DREAM, For 14 years!

By Kathleen Carr

A conversation that I had at my 20th high school reunion proved to be very revealing. My best friend from back in the 80's reminded me that my favorite movie involved a woman who owned a flower shop. I confided in her that my dream was to be that woman. I ended up being that woman, but forgot the about the movie. Thanks for making my dreams come true for 14 years! This Spring we are unveiling our Garden Center Rewards Program.

This is our way of thanking our loyal customers. It only costs \$2 to join and comes with unlimited rewards in the form of coupons, free seminars and special event invitations! Stop in soon to sign up. Unsure of what flowers to put in your pots this year? Come to a Container Workshop on either Saturday, May 16th and Sunday, May 17th. Stop in anytime between 9-12 on Saturday or 10-1 on Sunday. A gardening professional will be there

to assist you in achieving the most beautiful container gardens you have ever had. Celebrate Arbor Day and Earth Day with us. On Saturday, April 18th we will be giving free gifts to the first 50 people that come into the garden center. The gift bags will include over \$20 worth of free goodies. This is one event you don't want to miss! Got Pots? We recycle! We will recycle your empty plant containers for you. Drop them off in our designated recycling bin.

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Dates to Remember:

Moms and Muffins

Tuesday Mornings 10-12

Moms get 10% off their purchases

Seniors and Sweets

Wednesday Mornings 10-12

Seniors get 10% off their purchases

Saturday Seminar Series

Saturdays 1pm,

April 26th-June 13th

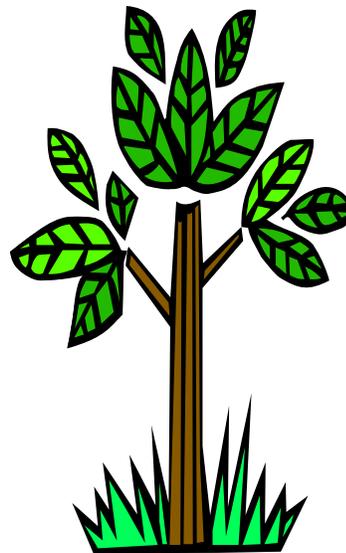
The Growing Scene's Open House May 1st-3rd 9-6pm

Mother's Day Weekend in our Garden May 9& 10

WELCOME CAROL *By Kathleen Carr*

We are pleased to announce a new addition to our staff. Carol joins us as a customer sales associate with over 18 years of experience in horticulture and customer service. Besides gardening, she loves to cook, read, crochet and chase her granddaughter, Sophie. Carol has two

daughters, Heather and Sarah, with the youngest being a newlywed and living in Colorado and her oldest living in the Rockford area with her family. Carol has lived in Huntley for over 15 years with her husband, Craig. We welcome her to our staff and look forward to introducing her to you..



SPRING OPEN HOUSE

By Kathleen Carr

The Growing Scene, Inc. and B & K Power Equipment announce their 14th Annual Spring Open House. It will be held on Friday, May 1st, Saturday, May 2nd and Sunday, May 3rd from 9:00-6:00. This is a very popular event that will feature refreshments, free drawings for lawn and garden products, and special sale prices. The Growing Scene will be spotlighting new plant introduction for 2009. These plants include the much anticipated "Twist N Shout" Hydrangea. A wide selection of very popular Proven Winner plants will also be available. B&K Power will feature 2009 models of Dixon Zero Turn mowers, Toro walk mowers and Stihl Power Equipment. A demonstration area will be available so you can "drive before you buy". B&K services all brands of power equipment. Any equipment that is brought in during our open house will receive a 10% discount on labor charges. Please stop by and discover "the local dealer difference".

GARDENING ON A BUDGET, THE TOP 10 WAYS TO ENJOY YOUR HOBBY FOR LESS!

By Kathleen Carr

The top 10 ways to enjoy your hobby for less.....

10. Plan your purchases. Know before you go. Either quantify a \$ amount that you want to spend or have a shopping list.
9. Purchase a professional design if your project includes more than 10 shrubs and/or 2 trees.
8. Buy seeds, instead of 4 packs of annuals or quart containers of perennials.
7. Shop with coupons from your local garden center.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH

You know what your birthstone is, but do you know you also have a birth flower? The following is a list of flowers associated with each month. .

- January-Carnation
- February-Violet
- March-Jonquil
- April-Daisy
- May-Lily of the Valley
- June-Rose/July-Larkspur
- August-Poppy
- September-Aster
- October-Cosmos
- November-Chrysanthemum
- December-Daffodil

STRESSED OUT?

By Kathleen Carr

Stressed out? Need a little pick me up? Scientific studies have proven that flowers have beneficial health effects by cleaning the air and triggering pleasure centers in the brain thanks to their pleasant appearance and aroma. This combination can give you relief from the symptoms of stress. Flowers have a powerful impact on humans. Their beauty and their scent mesmerize us. Spotting a beautiful flower allows us to slow our pace and pause from the chaotic daily schedule and spend a few moments immersed in the joy of beholding its beauty or smelling its sweet scent. Buy some flowers! They are an inexpensive way to add beauty and pleasure to your life or the life of a loved one.



6. Join the frequent buyers club or email list at your local garden center.
5. If something in your yard has died, check to see if it was under warranty when it died.
4. Do it yourself! A little sweat equity can save you thousands of dollars.
3. If someone asks you what do you want for mother's day....your birthday etc., consider requesting their assistance during a garden work day.

2. Organize a plant exchange. Listen to how people describe plants that they are giving away though, be very careful and do not accept plants that are invasive.

1. Use what you have first. Check out your garage, use that potting soil and fertilizer. Most homes have perennial plants that would benefit by being divided. Divide your perennials and fill in another area of your yard.

Excerpts from a presentation that was done in March at the Hampshire Home & Garden Expo.

JAPANESE BEETLE RELIEF

By Cindy Treynor

While Japanese beetle damage is easy to identify for those of us in the field of plant management, perhaps a lesson in "IPM" or, Integrated Pest Management, will better serve our clients in the understanding of how to deal with this common garden pest with the least impact on the planet and their health.

The Japanese beetle is quite beautiful: at roughly 3/8 inch long, and 1/4 inch wide. They have a shiny, metallic-green bodies and copper colored wing covers.

The damage done by Japanese beetles is pretty easy to identify. Usually, the bugs can be "caught in the act" while skeletonizing the leaves.

The method of eradication is a three part approach as follows.

1. The 1st step is the application of Milky Spore into your grass. The Milky Spore kills the insect at the larval or "grub" stage and continues to prevent growth of adult insects for up to ten years after initial application.

2. The 2nd step is the slowing of the eating stage of adult beetles by the application of Neem Oil to the plant at the first sign of feeding.

3. The 3rd stage of defense is the careful placement of Japanese Beetle traps. While these traps are very good at trapping adult beetles you need to place them away from your cherished plants as they can attract adult beetles for up to five miles!

For your convenience, we stock all of these products at our garden center.

GRANDMA' RECIPE BOOK

*From Grandpa's Garden to Grandma's
Grandma's Kitchen by Jean Britton*

Asparagus with Cheese

1 lb. fresh asparagus spears

(Or 1, 10 oz. pkg. frozen)

2 oz. processed Swiss cheese,
Shredded (1/2 cup)

2 Tbsp. chopped, canned pimento

2 tsp. sesame seed, toasted

In 10-inch skillet, cook asparagus spears in boiling, salted water until tender; drain. Toss together cheese, pimento and sesame seed; sprinkle over spears. Heat at 350 degrees just until cheese melts, about 3 minutes.

SATURDAY SEMINAR

SERES By Kathleen Carr

Education is vital to any hobby, but perhaps more so with gardening because we are working with live plants. The following is a brief summary of the Educational Seminars that will held at our garden center. The seminars are each Saturday afternoon at 1:00pm.

April 25th "Mulch, Everything You Need to Know" Crystal, *Aspen Valley Landscape Supply*

May 2nd "Pet Friendly Gardening" Cathie, *Olsen Distributing*

May 9th "10 Must Have New Plants for 2009" Laurie, *Bailey's Nursery*

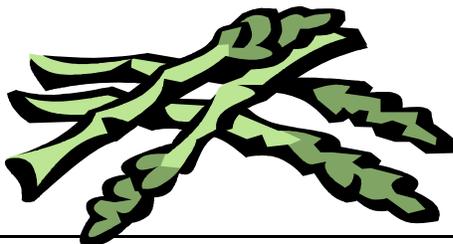
May 16th "Perennial Flower Gardening" Suzanne, *McHenry County Master Gardener*

May 23rd "Arming Ourselves Against the Japanese Beetle Attack" Ken, *St. Gabriel Organics*

The cost of each class is \$5.00 per person and the registration deadline is the Thursday prior to the class. Please check out our website for more complete details.

STOP THE DAILY FIGHTING, GET KIDS TO EAT THEIR VEGETABLES

Want your child or grandchild to eat their vegetables? Help them grow their own. Plant a vegetable garden with a child and you will be amazed by how much he/she likes their vegetables.



WHY THE GROWING SCENE, Inc. ?

By Kathleen Carr

Why should you hire The Growing Scene, Inc. to perform landscaping services for you?

1. **Experience**-Our staff has over 90 years of professional and personal gardening and landscaping experience. Combined with the fact that we are entering our 14th year of helping homeowners beautify their yard, we are the right choice!

2. Our employees and vehicles are fully **insured**.

3. **The buck stops here**. You deal directly with the owner of the company on each and every landscaping job.

4. We are a woman owned, locally based business. **Our roots run deep in McHenry and Kane Counties**.

5. We are active in and **support local organizations**. In 2008, we donated \$2900 in products and services to local churches and community organizations.

ENJOYING THIS NEWSLETTER?

We hope you enjoy reading the newsletter. We certainly enjoy writing it for you. In an effort to "Go Green" and save trees, we will start phasing out the mailing of these newsletters. Don't despair though, we will be emailing them to you. **Please, please** email us right now. Our email is tgsinc12@msn.com, simply put **NEWSLETTER** in the subject box and your address in the email. We will add you to our email list. Thanks for helping us be a greener, green industry company. While you are on the internet check out our website www.thegrowingscene.com



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Hours:
Monday-Saturday 9-6
Sunday 10-5



*A Garden Center and
Landscaping Company*

**JOIN US FOR OUR SPRING OPEN HOUSE, FRIDAY, MAY 1st,
SATURDAY, MAY 2, AND SUNDAY, MAY 3 FROM 9:00AM-6:00PM
REFRESHMENTS, SPECIAL SALES AND GIVE-AWAYS!**

The Growing Scene Gazette, is a publication of **The Growing Scene, Inc.** **The Growing Scene** is a garden center, landscape and Farm Stand company located at 17015 Harmony Road, Marengo. The phone number is 815-923-7322.

The website: www.thegrowingscene.com

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Melissa Shippy: Garden Center Manager

Jaime Cortez: Landscape Foreman

Noelle Landwehr: Financial Secretary

Cindy Treynor, Carol Lund and Dan Delporte Garden Center Sales Associates

*"The man who has planted a
garden feels that he has done
something good for the world"*

Charles Dedley Warner