

Fall 2014

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Unique Garden Centre

From the Ground Up

Colour my garden Beautiful

*"Your property is a canvas and plants are the paints you use to create the ultimate landscape art piece,"
-gardening expert, Frank Ferragine*

Colour in the garden can highlight a feature or be the focal point or define a particular area. It can be a multi-coloured mix or manicured monochromatic scheme or somewhere in between, but colour is key to establishing a mood.

What does colour say about your space?

Reds, yellows and oranges give a garden energy. Yellows are striking, stimulating and cheerful. They stand out in the shade and glow in the sun and pair well with other colours.

Favorite yellows are Leopards bane; Moonbeam coreopsis, the Rocket ligularia; and Autumn Sun rudbeckia.

Oranges and reds emit warmth, energy and passion. On their own or paired with another colour they make a dramatic statement. Favourite oranges are California poppy, Maltese cross, Asiatic lilies, and daylilies. Favourite reds: Fern-leaved peony, Oriental poppy, Jacob Cline monarda.

Pinks are passionate and youthful. Layering bright and soft colours of pink creates a feminine space. They pair perfectly with blues and greens creating a space that is easy on the eye and soothing to the soul. Favourite pinks: Bleeding heart, turtlehead, daylily, geranium, petunia.

Blue is cool, calm and serene. Purple portrays sophistication and nobility. They blend together well in the garden, more subtle in the shade and showy in the sun.

Favourite blues: Clustered Bellflower, May Night Salvia, Blue Flax.

White paints a serene peaceful picture. It is ideal for shady spaces or night gardens because it lightens dark areas.

Favourite whites; Candytuft, David garden phlox, anemones, white lilies.

You could associate colour schemes with season, filling a spring garden with yellows and blues to celebrate sunshine and sky. Lead into summer with orange and purple to enhance warm summer nights. In the fall, follow Mother Natures lead using yellow, red, orange and purple hues to reflect autumn foliage.

The bottom line is this. Your garden is a reflection of yourself. Choose a colour scheme that makes you feel comfortable and happy and go with it!



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***We offer both residential and commercial landscaping design services**



Don't hang up your garden gloves just yet...

The days are getting a bit shorter and the evenings are cool. You may think it is getting time to wind up your gardening activities for the year. But wait! Garden centre sales and moderate temperatures make it a great time to garden.

Early fall is the perfect time to divide and/or plant perennials like irises, lilies, daylilies, and peonies. They will have plenty of time to establish new roots before freeze-up.

Trees and shrubs can go into the ground at this time of year as well. Make sure they are well watered when planted and maintain a watering schedule until freeze-up.

It is also time to plant spring bulbs. Tulips, daffodils, crocuses and snowdrops should be planted into well-drained, prepared soil about six weeks before the ground freezes.

Cut back annuals that are finished, any diseased plants and any prolific self-seeders (unless you want a lot more of them).

Cut back peony, iris and hosta foliage which can harbour pests and diseases.

Do not cut back all perennials. Plants such as Karl Foerster grass are beautiful standing through winter. Some perennials with seed heads left standing can provide food for birds passing through or spending the winter.

Do remove leaves from the lawn every week to keep the lawn healthy. Make sure you have reduced watering to allow the lawn to go dormant for the winter.



Use your leaves to mulch the flower beds. Shred them first with a lawn mower, if possible.

Continue to water evergreens and newly planted shrubs and perennials, especially if the weather is dry. They need adequate moisture to survive the winter.

Use an extra layer of mulch over the root zone of more tender perennials and shrubs. This helps maintain a more even temperature especially during the later part of winter in freeze/thaw cycles.

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Winged Burning Bush



Winged burning bush (*Euonymus alata*) is an amazing plant in the landscape. One of the best shrubs for fall colour, its green leaves turn a florescent red to pink colour in the autumn.

It is generally quite symmetrical in shape and therefore does not necessarily require pruning. It does take to pruning well however. In particular, *Euonymus alata* 'Compacta' has a finer texture and would be a good choice for a formal clipped specimen.

The branches are unusual as well. They have four woody ridges that protrude from the bark giving the branches a square shape. This is where the "winged" in the name comes from.

Small red fruits add to its overall appeal.

It is a surprisingly adaptable plant, tolerating most soils and moisture conditions without any issues. It will adapt to shady locations as well, although its fall colouration will not be nearly as brilliant. In our climate this shrub will have a height and spread of about 4' (1.2m)

Suggested Varieties: Winged Burning Bush (*Euonymus alata*), Dwarf Burning Bush (*Euonymus alata* 'Compacta') & Fire Ball Burning Bush (*Euonymus alata* 'Fire Ball')

Burning bush can be used as a solitary accent shrub, a foundation planting, or as part of a shrub border in any garden where its shape and brilliant fall color would be welcome.

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