

WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

August 2006 Newsletter
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Established 1997

MARKET FOCUSES ON OUTDOOR STYLE *THE LATEST IN GARDEN ACCESSORIES*

The Atlanta Market provided insight into the direction of garden décor and inspiration with beautiful designs and exciting color combinations. It is apparent that the concept of casual outdoor living has quickly gained sophistication equal to interior design. Amenities and accessories abounded, with beautiful materials that rival indoor upholstery fabrics. Citrus green was a prominent color for all types of accessories. Overall, this emphasis conveys the idea that the outdoors is for people, not just for plants. Nationally, high quality products are in; "throw away" garden accessories found at the big box stores are losing ground.



fountains add movement, serenity, and beauty, to the outdoor retreat.

With their variety of sizes and shapes, their adaptability to various



the most valuable accessories that can be incorporated into the garden.

areas; it seems that the trend will be to have multiple fountains of different sizes and with different water sounds. Tucked into corners of patios among lushly planted pots, hung on ivy covered walls, and set in sunny or shady garden beds to disburse their lovely splashing sounds,



areas, and their contributions of movement and peaceful sounds, it is likely that fountains are

Colorful, oversized glazed terra cotta pots made an even larger showing than in years past, some having been adapted to be fountains. High fired and glazed, these containers can stay outdoors year round; many can withstand temperatures to twenty below zero. This year the glazes available are in multiple new hues ranging from a light chartreuse green to a deep eggplant. Look for glazed terra cotta garden seats in beautiful colors and shapes, and glazed pots to contain and conceal water hoses will be more readily available.



Outdoor pillows are being made with weatherproof fabric and fringe; they look as though they were made strictly for indoor use. New fabrics have been created that are beautiful, unique, and treated so that they will truly wear well outdoors. These will be in next month.

French bistro furniture has become even more popular this year. The U.S. distributor says that since it is found throughout NYC'S Central Park and in common areas of college campuses across the country; people have been made aware of its quality and comfort, and thus the upward surge. Most people want the chic style along with the convenience of the folding furniture for ease in storing. Black has been a leading color, as well as red.

Watch for a unique look in hose storage pots in verdigris brass. Hammered copper torches and copper wall mounted mail boxes with address numbers were attractive and will be carried at Wilshire Garden Market in the future.

New prints and colors are coming for autumn in our casual Sundure polyester pillows. Warm red hour glass prints, solid cream, dark brown and cream zebra print, blue with brown and clay, and a beautiful floral print with a coral background will lead us into fall.

In addition to the gift items found at the Atlanta Market, Wilshire Garden Market again will be carrying the framed garden theme wall and desk calendars by Four Seasons, Linnea Designs, and Susan Wallace Barnes. The calendars are available NOW!

WHAT'S NEW AT WILSHIRE GARDEN MARKET

New arrivals from our recent market trip include wonderful antique replicas in cast stone. The company's founder collected American and European antique garden ornaments, and has reproduced them. The aged green brown patina makes these pieces appear to have been



in an old New Orleans courtyard for decades. The finish appears to have old moss eroding away the concrete. New selections include small animal statuary such as frogs, cats, turtles and bunnies. Larger animals include wonderful fat hens, a Steeplechase fox, and a standing lamb.

Shown here is a fabulous cherub face planter on legs; this is a well made replica of an old carved piece. Other planters include old world jardinières with ornate roses and dimensional bows.



weighs 95 lbs., measuring 45" x24".

Wall pieces include cherub plaques, a keystone of a woman's face; a delightfully whimsical Gardener's Prayer; as well as a scene of cherubs and roses that



Finally, the adorable micro toadstools are back! Available in a wide range of colors from mottled reds, oranges, yellows, green jade and blues, to eggplant

and a new mix of yellow with lilac.

We are excited to once again have the authentic, French bee glasses, available in tumblers and high ball sizes; matching pitchers will be arriving soon. Also in from France are the floral etched glasses with sayings on both sides *C'est la Vie*, and *L'Amour*; small but gorgeous tablecloth weights



that resemble green grape clusters, and comfortable round woven grass covered seat cushions. All of these casually elegant items are wonderful additions to your outdoor entertaining collection.

We are delighted to have a series of new French triple milled soaps. The sight and scent of these soaps pulled us in to their show room. Scents include extra fragrant honey, citrus & floral, verbena, lavender, grapefruit, milk, and green tea. They are all *divinement!*



DOG DAYS GARDEN TIPS

It is hot. When the temperature rises into the 90's or



even 100, plants wilt, can go into dormancy, stop blooming, and even drop their leaves trying to stay alive and cope with the heat. Keep your garden good looking even in the hottest days of the year by following a

few common sense tips.

Especially when it is hot, keep the garden tidy. Trim back excess growth from annuals; revitalize them with a dose of liquid fertilizer. Deadhead perennials to keep blooms coming and to keep plants healthy and attractive.

Apply water to trees and lawns for longer periods of time if you have oscillating sprinkler heads, because it takes the oscillating type longer to distribute adequate water. Mature trees need 1 and 1/2 to 2 inches of water a week. Lawns need at least one inch of water twice a week, more when it is very hot.

Watering early in the morning, before ten o'clock, will allow the water to be absorbed into the soil and not evaporate. Also, water pots early in the morning so



that plants can have a chance to absorb cool water and prepare for the heat that is to come later. It is important to water the soil beneath the plant, not the leaves. The

plant absorbs water from the new roots that are around the outer edge of the plant itself. For plants that trail over the edge of a pot or window box, lift the bulk of the plant and water the soil until water runs through. When a plant gets watered in the heat of the day, the tiny droplets of water act as a mini magnifying glass and will end up scorching the leaves.

Looking outside and seeing your beautiful pots of plants drooping in the 100 degree heat sends a panic through most of us; we want to run out and drench the plant in cool water. If you must go out and water, take care to water the soil only, or try and wait until the sun has started to go down, to avoid scorching the leaves.

Another great tip to relieve sun tired plantings in pots is to move them into the shade for several days. If you have a pair of pots by an entry try turning the pot a quarter or half turn to relieve the potential heat burn due to the radiating heat emitted from the building.

FLOWER OF THE MONTH

The Gladiola is the flower of the month for August. They prefer full sun and well drained composted soil. These early planted flowers give a needed splash of color in the heat of summer.



SEMINAR SERIES 2005

These seminars begin at 10:30 a.m. and are one hour in length, with time for questions at the conclusion. The fee is \$10 per person; seating is somewhat limited, so call now to reserve a space. Door prizes are given at each seminar. Please join us!

Sat., Sept. 16 Linda Vater "Best Foundation Plants"

Fri., Oct. 13 Linda Vater "Bulb Container Gardening"

EXTERIOR DECORATING

This year give yourself a garden retreat, or refresh the one you have. In response to repeated requests, Wilshire Garden Market now provides an exterior decorating consultation service. By appointment and for a fee, we will make a consultation visit followed by written suggestions to make your garden retreat more charming, cohesive, and useful. Call the store for more details or to set up an appointment.



Let us help you create your outdoor living room!

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