

Village Garden Center & Landscape Service

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RISING SUN™ REDBUD TREE

This redbud tree has what others don't. Watch as its heart shaped leaves transform into a work of art. Each leaf has a tri-color to it. Enjoy yellow, orange, and apricot colors during the summer and fading into a lime green when it gets hot.

As spring approaches, beautiful fuchsia pink blooms cover its branches that really brighten your day.

The Rising Sun Redbud needs to be planted in an area where it will receive full sun. It reaches heights of up to 8-12 feet tall and about 8 feet wide. It will need regular watering once it gets hot but other than that, its quite the tree.

Birds and Butterflies will also be attracted to this redbud tree.

This is the ideal tree for a specimen or focal point in your landscape.



Blue Pacific Juniper

The Blue Pacific Juniper, or Shore Juniper, is a groundcover useful on tough-to-maintain slopes on your landscape. Similar to the Blue Rug Juniper, this plant works well on slopes too difficult to continually maintain with a lawnmower.

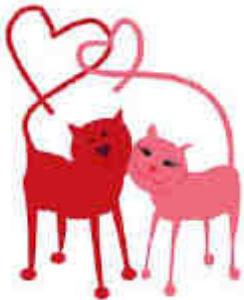
Also, the Blue Pacific Juniper's attractiveness allows it to function well in planter's boxes or hanging over a retainer wall. It's hardy in zones 6-9 and reaches a mature width of 6 to 8 feet. The growth rate for the Blue Pacific Juniper is medium, and its versatility allows it to adapt to a full range of conditions. It thrives best in full sun, although those planted in partial shade are still sure to please.

One of the hardiest varieties of the Shore Juniper, this is native to Japan and yields a blue-green, needle-like foliage, which maintains year round. And while it produces the needle-like foliage, the Blue Pacific Juniper has a soft feel unique for needle-bearing plants. Berry-like cones are common to appear in the fall. This selection grows best in full sun and dry soil, and, most importantly, it will not thrive in swampy, moist conditions.



Dwarf Norway Spruce *Picea abies 'Pumila'*

Low growing broad compact evergreen with a mounding growth habit. Interesting dark green needles on dense branching. Excellent plant, well suited as a low informal hedge or foundation plant. New growth begins later than other dwarf varieties.



Water Needs: Moderate
Foliage Color: Green
Landscape Uses: Border Hedge Foundation
Garden Styles: Traditional Zen
Light Needs: Full Sun
Plant Types: Evergreens
Height: 24-36"
Spread: 5-10'
Special Features: Deer Resistant Rabbit Resistant Winter Interest
Growth Habits: Ground Cover Round
Cold Hardiness: Zone 3

Quercus bicolor Willd.
swamp white oak



Culture

Easily grown in average, medium to wet, acidic soil in full sun.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Quercus bicolor, commonly called swamp white oak, is a medium sized, deciduous tree with a broad, rounded crown and a short trunk which typically grows at a moderate rate to a height of 50-60' (sometimes larger). Leaves are dark, shiny green above and silvery white beneath, with 5-10 rounded lobes or blunt teeth along the margins. Fall color is yellow, but sometimes reddish purple. Insignificant flowers in separate male and female catkins in spring. Fruits are acorns which mature in early fall. Indigenous to north, central and eastern Missouri in moist to swampy locations in bottomlands and lowlands, such as along streams and lakes, valleys, floodplains and at the edge of swamps. Also has surprisingly good drought resistance.

Genus name comes from the classical Latin name for oak trees.

Specific epithet refers to the leaves being shiny green above and silvery white beneath.

Problems

Generally a durable and long-lived tree, but is susceptible to a large number of potential diseases and insect pests, including anthracnose, canker, leaf spot, rust, blight, galls, caterpillars, borers, leaf miners, oak lace bug and oak mite. Chlorosis (yellowing of the leaves while the veins remain green) often occurs when soils are not properly acidic. Can be difficult to transplant and establish.

Garden Uses

Specimen, street tree, lawn tree. A good tree for wet ground and low spots.



Dogwood History

While Dogwoods have been around for generations, the English language developed the phrase, "Dogtree" for them in 1548. It derived from the word "Dagwood" because slender stems were used for making narrow items, like dags or daggers, arrows, and skewers. Basically small items that needed hard wood. Later in 1614 the name changed to Dogwood.



Some suggest that the tree was called the Dogwood because when the wind blows and the branches knock together it sounds like a dog barking. Also, to treat skin conditions like mange in dogs, people boiled the wood in water, then washed their dogs in the Dogwood water.

While in Europe the wood of Dogwoods was being used for items like arrows and the first types of tennis rackets, Native Americans were using Dogwoods for a variety of things as well. Many Indians used Dogwoods for making toothbrushes, as well as daggers and arrows like Europeans. Dogwoods were seen as lucky, and masculine. Males often ate Dogwood berries in religious ceremonies. The bark and roots were used for medicines and dyes. However, the sap is toxic and was often used as poison among some tribes!

Also, Native Americans used inner Dogwood bark in a special tobacco mixture, used in sacred pipes. When Dogwoods busted with blooms they signaled that it was time for Native American's to plant corn. This is our favorite Dogwood Tree use! It meant that winter ended, and the growing season had begun!



The cultivation of Dogwoods to be used as beautiful ornamental trees started around the 1730s. People were taking notice of Dogwood's compact size, large blooms in pink, red, and white, and weaving, curvy branches.

Thomas Jefferson actually encouraged the growth of Dogwood Trees at his home in Monticello, Virginia. This led to this tree taking off in popularity. Many Southern states encourage using Dogwoods as beautiful landscaping trees.

The excitement of these bright blooms every spring has led to many Dogwood festivals located across many states. Each with their own unique traditions. Some feature BBQs, concerts, golf tournaments and more.



Dogwood Care

When looking for a place to plant your Dogwood tree remember that Dogwoods enjoy partial shade. They can tolerate full sun, but prefer receiving dappled shade during the day. They grow in the wild in shaded hardwood forests, so it's very natural for them to thrive without full sun.



Dogwood trees will adapt to your natural soil, even if it's sandy or heavy in clay. However, they do benefit from soil that's slightly acidic. You can amend your soil by adding a little organic matter to it. Keep your soil moist, but not oversaturated. Dogwoods are pretty drought tolerant, but will need some water during times of prolonged heat and droughts.

Every few days feel the soil around your trees, if it's close to drying out then give your tree a slow deep watering. Pay attention to the weather in your area to have an idea of how much rain fall your plants are receiving.

Spreading a 3 inch layer of mulch around the base of your trees will help your soil retain moisture. Mulch will also prevent weeds and grass from growing under your trees, which can steal nutrients from them.

Red-Dogwood Fertilizer usually isn't necessary for Dogwood trees, unless you know that your yard is lacking in nutrients. You can find how much nutrients your lawn has with a basic soil testing kit found in local gardening stores. If you find that your soil isn't acidic you can give it some food that's for Holly trees or an acid loving shrub. Dogwoods also can benefit from fertilizer that's high in nitrogen. If you need to fertilize your trees, fertilize them in the early spring and again in the early fall.

Prune your Dogwoods in the early spring, before your tree breaks dormancy. Pruning Dogwoods can help shape them and improve their health. With a sharp and sterile pair of loppers or hand pruners remove any dead or damaged branches. Also, remove any branches that are touching or rubbing together. This way they won't have unclean breaks on their own. Thin the center of your tree to allow more air circulation which can prevent molds, fungi and mildews from growing



Dogwood Berries

The attractive look of Dogwood Bark and bright showy blooms often cause the fact that these trees produce berries to go unnoticed. The berries grow over the winter and can vary in color and size. They can be white, red, or blue. They can be very small, or the size of raspberries.

Even though some Native Americans used to eat the berries we don't recommend doing so. They can cause gas and stomach pains. Some believe the berries are Toxic.

Birds and small wildlife enjoy eating them, and they make an excellent winter food source for small wildlife.



Dogwood trees are extremely easy to grow in a variety of different climates. There even might be some growing naturally in wooded areas near your home. Their large bright blooms will let you know that spring has officially sprung! They have multiple deep green leaves in the summer. In the fall many different types of Dogwood trees provide beautiful fall foliage before their leaves drop. Their textured grey trunks stand out against the snow in the winter, not to mention you might get a glimpse of red berries before the birds eat them all. These trees have been a classic American favorite for years. The time to plant them is now! Don't hesitate to honor their rich history and provide your yard with year around color.



Tulip Wreath

This is the perfect decoration to welcome people into your home—and to greet spring. A grapevine base makes the wreath feel natural, but silk flowers mean it will stay alive and bright for the entire season.



Spring Grass Wreath

No, you don't have to mow your lawn for this project—just pick up some grass-like fabric or furry yarn from a craft store. The decoration embodies everything we love about springtime, and requires very little effort or craftiness to put together. By using a green wreath base, you won't have to worry if your wrapping job isn't perfect.



Floral Monogram Wreath

Any foam wreath base can be cut to mirror your (or your family's) monogram, and while this tutorial uses craft store silk flowers, you're welcome to be ambitious and use fresh flowers from your own garden. Just make sure you take the wreath down when the flowers start to wilt—or replace them with new ones!



Easter Candy Wreath

Those pastel holiday candies do taste really good—but they also look pretty hanging on the wall. Save yourself the stomachache and glue them into a wreath shape—it takes a little patience, but the result is a picture-perfect holiday decoration.

February

Pruning: Now is the time to cut back roses, grasses, hydrangeas that bloom on new wood, and other dormant trees and shrubs that might just need a little shaping. I personally like to cut my roses and grasses most of the way back, as they seem to grow fuller and denser with a hard prune. You can safely prune back all of the roses- the old fashioned types, climbers, knockouts, drifts and more.

All of the ornamental grasses will also benefit from a hard prune- such as miscanthus, liriope, pampass, fountain and so forth.

Only prune the hydrangeas that bloom on new wood (meaning new growth) right now such as Limelight, Endless Summer, Vanilla Strawberry and etc. Leave those old fashioned mop heads alone right now- you may risk cutting off this year's flowers. Prune the hydrangeas back to a 1/3 of the plant left- I believe that they are stronger by leaving some of the base of the existing stems- it will lend some strength to hold up the heavy blooms in the summer.

Lightly shape and prune dormant trees such as fruit bearing, Japanese Maples, and Crape Myrtles- but please, please do NOT hard prune these trees.

All you need to do is lightly, I repeat lightly prune and shape these trees if and only if- it is needed. They will still flower for you regardless of pruning them or not (if they are planted in adequate sun of course).

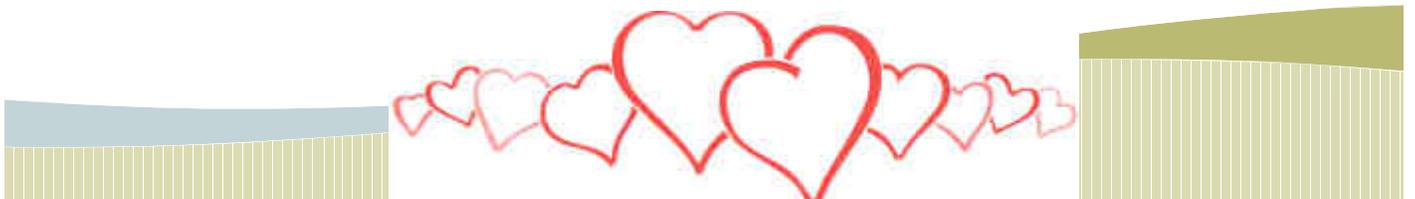
Prepping:

This is the best time to start applying pre-emergent to the beds and turf to prevent weeds from coming up in early spring. I like to use Preen for my flower beds and plant islands. It's easy to use, and works great. For the turf grass- make sure you apply the proper amount for the square footage that you have.

Trust me- applying this stuff now will save you from so much work later on this spring season.

Go and ahead and clean out and till your garden and flower beds right now too. Working the soil will help prevent weeds and get rid of some insects as well. Doing this chore now will leave you more time for the more fun stuff in the spring- like planting the flowers!

Spend a little time cleaning, maintaining and organizing your garden tools and equipment. Do you always lose your hand trowels in the garden? I do, and it drives me crazy~ so this year I am going to paint the handles the brightest colors I can get my hands on!



POTTERY SALE



60% off ALL Pottery for the month of February!!!

Perfect time to replant your house plants or get Ready for Spring. All colors all sizes.



Seeds have arrived at the Garden Center

*Grab a few pots @ **60%** off and start Your indoor Herb garden NOW!!*

FIVE Easy Appetizer Recipes

1. Goat Cheese Trio:

Cut a 12-ounce log of goat cheese crosswise into 3 mini logs.

Roll 1 piece in chopped mixed herbs, another in cracked mixed peppercorns and the last in chopped dried cranberries and cashews.

Serve with baguette slices or crackers



2. Cannellini Bruschetta:

Combine 1 drained can cannellini beans, 1 cup chopped drained giardiniera (Italian pickled vegetables) plus a splash of brine from the jar, 1/4 cup diced provolone and 2 tablespoons each chopped parsley and olive oil.

Serve on toasted Italian bread.



3. Spiced Olives:

Heat 1/3 cup olive oil with 1 strip each lemon zest and orange zest, 1/4 teaspoon red pepper flakes and 1 smashed garlic clove.

Stir in 1 cup mixed olives and a few thyme sprigs.



4. Kale-Artichoke Dip:

Thaw 1 1/2 cups frozen kale and 1/2 cup frozen artichoke hearts; squeeze dry, then roughly chop.

Combine with 4 ounces softened cream cheese, 1/2 cup each shredded Swiss cheese and milk, 1/4 cup grated Parmesan, 1 minced small garlic clove, 1/2 teaspoon salt and a dash each of cayenne and Worcestershire sauce in a microwave-safe dish.

Cover and microwave 5 minutes, then stir.

Serve with pita chips or crackers.



5. Fried Ravioli:

Fry uncooked small cheese or meat ravioli in 365 degrees F vegetable oil until golden, about 2 minutes.

Drain on paper towels and sprinkle with salt and grated Parmesan. Serve with warm marinara sauce.



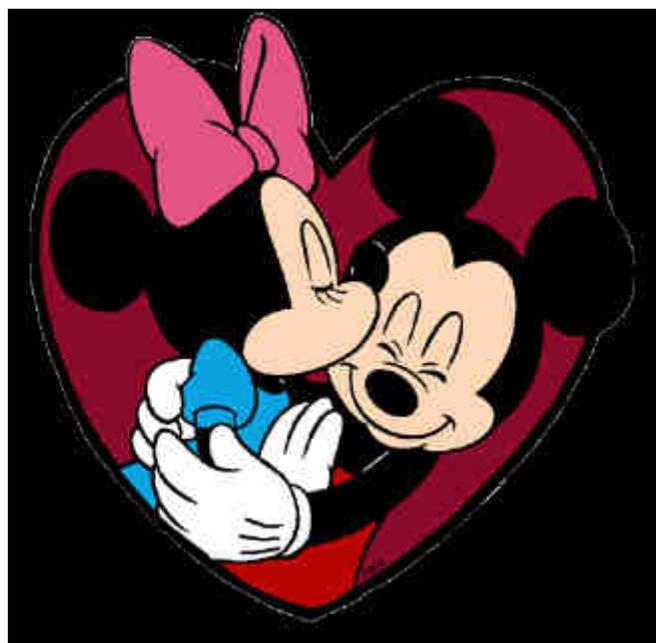
From the Garden of Eva



Strawberry cake PLUS brownie batter?
Seriously- it's one of the most delicious cupcake combinations I have had!
The colors are so cute for Valentine's day . . .
These would be perfect for any Valentine's party or no occasion at all

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (19.5 ounce) package brownie mix
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil (you could also use canola oil)
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 (18.25 ounce) package strawberry cake mix (or any flavor you want)
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil (you could also use canola oil)
- 1 1/3 cups water
- 3 egg whites
- Frosting:
 - 1/2 cup butter softened
 - 1/2 cup shortening
 - 1 teaspoon vanilla
 - 2 tablespoons milk
 - 4 cups powdered sugar
 - 1/4 cup chocolate sprinkles



INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat an oven to 350 degrees F. Line 40-48 muffin cups with paper liners (I only got about 40 cupcakes, but you may get more).
2. Whisk together the brownie mix, 2 eggs, 1/2 cup canola oil, and 1/4 cup water in a bowl. Stir just until fully incorporated, about 50 strokes; set aside.
3. Mix the cake mix, 2 tablespoons canola oil, 1 1/3 cup water, and 3 egg whites in a large bowl with an electric mixer on low speed until combined. Mix on medium speed for 2 minutes.
4. Spoon the brownie batter into prepared muffin cups, filling each cup 1/3 full. Spoon the cake batter over the brownie batter, until muffin cups are each 2/3 full.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until golden and the tops spring back when lightly pressed, about 20 minutes.
6. Frosting:
7. Cream together the butter shortening, and vanilla. Then add in milk and powdered sugar 1 cup at a time. Mix until light and fluffy. Top with optional sprinkles.

Fringe Trees in Your Garden

White fringetree is a tree native to the savannas and lowlands of the southeastern United States, from New Jersey south to Florida, and west to Oklahoma and Texas. This plant is classified as *Chionanthus virginicus* in the oleaceae (olive) family.

In late spring an abundance of feathery white flowers appears on the tree for a two-week blooming providing a showy display. The flowers can perfume your garden with their sweet, lilac-like smell, particularly in the evening.

The flowering trees usually thrive in extremely wet river bottoms or in upland areas that are favorable to longleaf pine trees growth.

Where the Tree Grows

The U.S. Department of Agriculture established the standard by which gardeners and growers can determine which plants are most likely to thrive at a location. This is known as the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map. Accordingly, this plant should be planted in zones 3 to 9 for best results, which encompasses most of the U.S.

Naming of the Tree

The species name was originally cited by historical Swedish botanist Linnaeus as *Chionanthus virginica*, treating the genus as feminine; however, now the genus is correctly referred to as masculine, which means the species' correct name is *virginicus*. Besides fringetree or white fringetree, common names that you may see for this tree include old man's beard and grancy greybeard. "Grancy" is another word meaning grandpa or grandad.

Growing Statistics

At maturity, the tree will be around 12 to 20 feet tall and wide. It can have several trunks, making the shape variable depending on the way they grow.

Leaves that are 3 to 8 inches long appear as the tree is flowering in late spring. The shrub is dioecious, which means it can be male or female.

A male tends to flower more elaborately and may have a better show of the white blooms that appear in May and June.

In the fall, clusters of small blue fruit will be produced on the female plants. A relative of the olive family, the drupe fruits can be pickled and eaten.

The fringe tree is adaptable to a wide variety of soils, which is great for those clay or sandy soils that pose problems for many other plants. It also likes moist or wet soils.



Carolina Sweetheart™ Redbud

One of the loveliest, most colorful redbuds we've seen. In early to mid-spring, rosy purple flowers open along its stems, creating a spectacular effect. The color show continues when its graceful, heart-shaped leaves emerge. The variegated leaves open to shades of pink, red, white, purple and green. Growing 20-30' tall with a 25-30' spread, this lovely redbud has a beautiful umbrella-like growth habit. It's an ideal choice as a specimen plant—or group with other woodland plants.



This new release is the result of work done by Dr. Tom Ranney at North Carolina State University. *Cercis canadensis* 'Carolina Sweetheart'

Although the redbud does well in most soil types, it prefers moist, well-drained sites. It does not, however, like those that are permanently wet. It tolerates acid or alkaline soils. It grows well in full sun but prefers some shade in the heat of summer. Although it will grow in fairly dense shade, it blooms more heavily when exposed to sun. Redbuds tolerate moderate dry spells, but do better when irrigated in summer dry spells.

Redbuds are very susceptible to *Botryosphaeria* canker and dieback on the branches. This is a fungal disease that enters twigs and branches, feeds on the living tissue below the bark, and spreads around the stem. Once it encircles the branch, the water supply beyond that point is cut off to the leaves. The branch will suddenly wilt and die. Redbuds that are under drought stress will more easily succumb to *Botryosphaeria* canker than a well-watered tree.

Apply mulch out as far as the drip line of the limbs. Mulch will keep the soil cooler and more evenly moist in the summer. Pruning out the diseased branches and disposing of the cuttings will significantly help to reduce disease. Prune when the stems and foliage are dry. Cut the stem 6-8" below where any sunken, cracked or diseased area is, and disinfest the pruners between cuts with a spray of rubbing alcohol on the pruners. Water the plants well weekly. Fertilize them during the spring at six-week intervals with a slow-release tree & shrub fertilizer.

Wounds created by pruning or mechanical injury serve as entry points for the fungus that infects the wood and causes cankers. Avoid wounding to minimize susceptibility to this disease.

Insects such as granulate ambrosia beetle, black twig borer, treehoppers, caterpillars, scales and leafhoppers can also cause damage.



SALE

All Pottery now 60% off

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