



The Garden Buzz...



Down Home Garden Center & General Store
Newsletter

November 2014

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving is a day to recognize the richness of our lives, the beauty all around us and the gratitude in our hearts. We hope your Thanksgiving is filled with family, friends and happiness.

Want a lot of color in early spring? Try the **Double Take Orange Storm Quince**.



Big, richly colored, double flowers provide a stunning early spring display. Drought tolerant once established, it may be pruned to shape after flowering. Intense spring color. Good for cut flowers. Thornless and deer resistant, it does not produce fruit. It reaches a height of 3-4 feet tall and wide. It needs partial to full sun. The Orange Storm is a wonderful addition to any landscape. **Now is the perfect time to plant trees and shrubs.**

Our NC Grown Christmas trees should arrive the week before Thanksgiving. Down Home Garden Center is proud to provide quality Grade 1 trees from the NC Mountains to our customers at great prices. Our trees start at \$48. Check our website or follow us on Facebook to know exactly when the trees have arrived. We also carry wreaths and roping.

CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH 3 – 6 PM

Please join us as we celebrate the Christmas Season. Enjoy holiday foods and Christmas music as you browse among our new Christmas gifts. We have a gift for everyone on your list: NC foods, locally handcrafted items, wall art, soy candles and lots of ornaments. A surprise visitor from the North Pole is scheduled to make an appearance at 4 pm!



Preferred Customer Shrub & Tree Sale. Save 25% on all shrubs and trees from now until November 15th! Fall is the BEST time to plant. Planting trees and shrubs now gives them the opportunity to become established before the heat of next summer.

November Gardening Checklist

- Plant ornamental trees
- Plant winter- and spring-blooming bulbs
- Pre-chill tulips and hyacinths for indoor forcing
- Cut back on feeding houseplants (do not feed dormant houseplants)
- Rake lawn to remove debris
- Protect roses for the winter
- Prune fall- and winter-flowering shrubs during or just after bloom
- Prune hardy deciduous and evergreen shrubs and vines
- Protect tender plants from frost

Plant Bulbs Now for Spring



Bulbs are a natural product. And, as such, follow a natural cycle of growth and rebirth. Enjoying their fabulous flowers means planting ahead; simply "dig, drop, done" in one season then "delight" in the next. Bulbs are among the easiest flowers to grow and also the most stunningly colorful to enjoy. We have many pre-packaged bulbs to choose including tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, and crocus. We recommend Espoma Bulb-tone when planting bulbs. Bulb-tone is a premium plant food formulated specifically for bulbs and tubers. It contains bone meal and other natural organics to meet the special nutritional needs of these plants. Bulb-tone's all natural formula now contains Bio-tone®, a proprietary blend of beneficial microbes. Bio-tone biologically enhances this natural plant food to ensure superior plant growth. Bulb-tone feeds slowly, safely, and will provide a long lasting food reservoir to ensure superior

This month's recipe:

Does your family have a favorite dish that just makes Thanksgiving? For us, it is our...

Sweet Potato Casserole

- 3 cups cooked, mashed sweet potatoes
- ½ cup white sugar
- ¼ cup milk
- ²/₃ cup butter, melted
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 ½ tsp vanilla
- 1 cup flaked coconut
- 1 cup pecans, chopped
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup all-purpose flour

Combine potatoes, white sugar, milk, ½ the butter, eggs & vanilla. Mix well and spoon into a greased, 8" square baking dish. Combine coconut, nuts, brown sugar, flour & remaining butter and sprinkle over the top of potato mixture. Bake in a 375 oven 25 minutes or until golden brown. Yield: 6 servings.

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Rose Care

It is getting to be that time of year again. Fall is now upon us, and it is time to start thinking of getting your landscaping—and especially your roses and rose bushes ready for winter. Depending on the type of roses and rose bushes you have, there are several things that you can do right now to help them survive the winter.

Hybrid tea roses should be pruned down to about 12 to 18 inches in height, and then covered up to protect them from the wind and the sun. It's important to gather all of the soil and mulch up and over the base of the rose plant or rose bush—about 8 inches. We recommend using pine mini nugget mulch. Doing this will protect the graft union of the rose bush from the severe cold if you have any in your region. You should avoid using plastic rose cones that do not have ventilation holes.

Shrub roses generally need very little winter protection—most shrub rose bushes do not have a graft union that you need to protect. But, it will help to put at least 3 or 4 inches of new mulch over the top of the rose bed. Protecting the bush from any strong winds will also help. You can also fertilize them at least a few weeks before the soil freezes.

For climbing roses, you will need to lay the canes down for winter protection. Do this after the leaves are completely off the plant and the plants have “hardened off”. In the spring, when the danger of any severe cold has passed, pull the mulch off of the canes of the plant and stand them back up again.



Do you love collards but don't like the hassle of cooking them? Try our cooked seasoned collards. We are scheduled to receive them in stock the first week of November. They are delicious and come frozen in 1 pound packages that all you need to do is heat in the microwave. Add some cornbread and as we Southerners say “you're in high cotton”. Enjoy!



Fun new Fairy Garden Accessories have arrived! From Fairyland with Fairy Swings to Gnome's and animals in Woodland World and even the Farm. The possibilities are endless. Add a scarecrow to bring the Fall season to your fairy garden. Would you like to make your own fairy garden in our Workshop? Check our website for details, www.downhomegarden.com.

