

Garden News

City  People's
garden store + landscape

Big, Bountiful Blooms

Summer
2006

City People's Garden Store
2939 E Madison
Seattle, WA 98112
Hours:
Monday–Saturday 9-6
Sunday 10-6



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Summer is a time for sitting back and enjoying the garden's brightest flowers. Delphiniums, roses, and dahlias abound. But a few newer perennials are quickly becoming favorites. Fantastic colors and endless blooms make these some of summer's most exciting plants.

The first is Geranium 'Rozanne'. Now everyone knows there are zillions of hardy geraniums that are lovely, long blooming, and tolerant of a wide variety of conditions. 'Rozanne', however just doesn't stop blooming from May to November. She has blue purple flowers with a white eye. They are fairly large blooms for a geranium. She can take full sun or quite a bit of shade. Her foliage is lovely. She is herbaceous but comes back nice and early in spring. 'Rozanne' grows about 15 inches high and 3 feet wide.

If you want to feel the magnetic attraction that butterflies feel for nectar laden flowers, come and look at the new series of Echinaceas. 'Sunrise' has yellow flowers with a russet cone. Both 'Sunset' and 'Sundown' are vibrant orange with a henna cone. 'Twilight' is an incredible rose with a tinge of orange and a



red cone. The honey scented flowers bloom from July through September, attracting hummingbirds as well as butterflies.

These newer cultivars of echinacea are expensive and, sorry, irresistible. The older 'Magnus' and 'Ruby Star'—both stunning purple and rose with orange cones—are standard price.

Echinaceas are meadow plants that prefer full sun. They are deer resistant and hardy to -30 degrees. Though drought tolerant they do need to be watered regularly their first summer to establish a good root system. Good drainage is also essential. The 3 foot tall by 2 foot wide plants look great with blue salvias and the tall sedums. My challenge will be keeping them in stock! ♣

—Kathleen Glasman, nursery manager

Price Check

Proud of our plants and their prices

In January, Maria Cheha became the Garden Store's new tree and shrub buyer, stepping into the shoes left open by the departure of the beloved Louise Luthy who'd been with the organization for over ten years. To get up to speed, Maria visited nurseries around the area and confirmed what we were already pretty sure of—our prices are often lower than most local nurseries.

Because of our size and quick turnover, our plants are notably healthy and happy.

City People's Garden Store (and the Mercantile as well) has always had the mission of offering great selection at fair and affordable prices. I have recently heard, now several times, that many people

expect our prices to be higher. But this is not the case. Despite our in-city address, and despite our small city size, we take great pride in our large plant selection and the prices at which we offer them (and other merchandise as well).

True, you might find some lower prices at Home Depot or Lowes, but as an independently owned store dependent on its immediate community to stay in business, our goal is to offer something for everyone and to be fair and responsible. So shop around, then pass the word around: City People's Garden Store's plants might just be some of the best deals in town.

—Steve Magley, Owner

Tea Time!

If you have some tired looking plants, powdery mildew perhaps, some black spot on your roses, a suffering shrub—one of your best and most organic solutions is to apply some freshly brewed **Compost Tea**.

Our tea is teeming with millions of beneficial micro organisms and is ready **every Saturday morning** during the planting season.

Pour some around your plants and spray the rest on the foliage. The microbes will fight off pathogens and help root systems.

Compost Tea

1 gallon \$4.99

Brewed 24 hours for maximum microbial activity.
Offered Saturdays only.

Seat Selection

Choose outdoor furniture based on your taste and your time

When choosing outdoor furniture, consider both style and care requirements for long lasting satisfaction.



Wood—Made from kapur, a teak-like Asian hardwood, **Arboria** wood furniture fits naturally in a garden setting. Long lasting kapur silvers to gray like teak, and

is as durable as it is beautiful. **Maintenance:** Requires annual applications of hard wood oil. Best if protected from winter rain. Store in a dry cool place.

Resin Wicker—Light-weight, durable, and low-maintenance. **Carter Grandle** synthetic wicker is woven over a rust resistant aluminum frame. Roomy and comfortable, resin wicker is perfect for creating an "outdoor living room."

Maintenance: Hose off to clean. Protect from freezing temperatures by covering. Cushions are stain, mildew, and water resistant and can be aired out when wet. Protect cushions from hard rain and store in winter.



Wrought Iron—Strong and classic. Heavy weight iron furniture is built to last. The high-tech powder coated finish is rust resistant. We have been carrying **Meadowcraft** wrought iron furniture for years with great success. **Maintenance:**



Clean with soapy water. Wax if desired. Okay if left out all year.

SALE: Wrought iron and tile top rectangular table and roomy coil spring chairs in espresso. Over 30% off. ☘

Organic Offerings

New hardgoods buyer **Lisa Mead** has made it a priority to offer more non-chemical options for fungicides. Look for these organic products on our shelves:

No Moss™ by SafeGro: A combination of natural oils, garlic extract, and molasses are some of the ingredients in this natural mossicide. \$18.49.



Mildew Cure™ also by SafeGro is ideal for combatting powdery mildew on vegetables and other plants. \$15.49.



Rootstock from Earth Juice is a vegan, all-natural rooting gel derived from soybean, kelp meals and sulfate of potash. \$11.99

Messenger® from Eden Bioscience is the much talked about natural aid that helps plants be stronger and healthier, as well as produce more fruit, flowers, and foliage. The active ingredient in **Messenger®** is a naturally occurring protein that triggers a plant to activate its own natural responses to help fight off disease and stay healthy.

Messenger® has been awarded by the EPA and endorsed by the American Rose Society. Single dose packets are \$1.79



Seeking Structure

Nestled in and among the shrub beds and around the perennial tables in our outdoor nursery you will find arbors and trellises, benches, and fountains. Every week garden designer Alison Greene (*pictured right*) creates beautiful scenes with these structures and the plants around them.

Adding an architectural element to your garden can transform it, creating an artistic focal point or bringing height to an area where there was none. Structures such as arbors can become an enticing entryway in the front of a garden or a peaceful place to pause in the corner. Ornate or simple plant trellises can be both functional and eye catching.

Adding Art

A well placed obelisk can be a support for a climbing vine and in the winter stand out as a point of interest when the plants around it are dormant. “A simple bamboo spiral in a beautiful container can be a great design detail,” notes Alison, the Garden Store buyer of these non-plant garden elements.

Her own creative eye helps her choose a wonderful variety of styles: Traditional cedar structures, rustic willow benches, modern iron trellises, and whimsical standing metal sculptures.



Many of Alison's suppliers are local artisans.

Vertical Gardening

Structural pieces can expand a limited-sized balcony garden. Narrow and fan-shaped trellises are great for adding a vertical element to a container design. And in a small space, these upright plant supports will create room for a beautiful flowering vine with space for more plants beneath it. Pick a support with an interesting design to it, and it becomes functional art.

Trellises and arbors are all over the store—hanging on walls in the indoor nursery, tucked into corners and on the sides of our building, placed throughout the beds outside. Tour the nursery for ideas on how to add these points of interest into your own garden.

And look for great summer **sales** on rolled fencing. Made of bamboo, brush, or willow, these woven fences can provide an attractive backdrop to plantings or help screen out a less than desirable view. ♣

—Kyra Butzel, editor

Timely Tasks for Summer

Water wisely

Water deeply and well rather than shallow and often. We still need to watch our water consumption in Western Washington. A drip system is the best way to use water efficiently in your garden. Call **City People's Gardens Design & Landscape** for help with installation, (206) 324-0963.

Weed with the weather

Weeds come out easier and with more of the root after a good rain. If you must spray, stick with a natural weed killer such as **Burn Out**.

Pinch pansies and perennials

Dead-head bedding plants and repeat-flowering perennials regularly to prolong flowering.

Prune plants

Summer pruning includes thinning plum trees, removing fruited raspberry canes, trimming hedges, pruning wisteria, and dividing bearded iris bulbs.

Sow seeds

In July start your winter vegetable garden from seed. Plant beets, brussels sprouts, and the fall and winter varieties of broccoli, cauliflower, and carrots. In August it will be time for arugula, turnip, and onions seeds.

Rejuvenate roses

Summer heat can stress your rose plants making them more susceptible to fungus and aphids. Make sure they

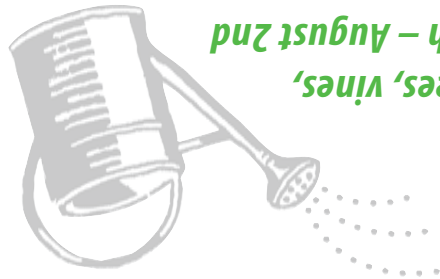
are well watered. Continue to feed with a slow release fertilizer such as **Dr. Earth Organic Rose and Flower** fertilizer. \$7.99.

Tend tomatoes

Once your tomatoes reach 3 feet, remove the leaves from the bottom foot of the stem to reduce the chance of fungal problems. Also, pinch the suckers off that develop in the crotch joint of two branches for better fruit production

Care for Containers

To keep your container plantings vibrant and fresh, use a liquid fertilizer. We recommend **Dr. Earth Liquid All Purpose Fertilizer Concentrate**. \$19.99 (makes 16 gallons).



Summer Plant Sale!
20% off all perennials, shrubs, trees, vines,
groundcovers, and ferns. July 14th – August 2nd

Valid only with coupon at
City People's Garden Store
through August 9th, 2006.
Does not apply to sales items
or landscape orders.

All Regularly
Priced Merchandise

15%
Off

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