



Growing Matters

Greetings

Pippi's garden club met twice this spring. At the April meeting we talked about how to use plants to attract birds to the garden and in May we discussed propagation of shrubs and perennials. Tara McClung received her coupon for 10% off for submitting her winning suggestion for the topic of the May meeting.

Now I'm looking for suggestions for the August meeting. Email me your choice for a gardening seminar, and if we use your topic you will receive a 10% off coupon and obtain some worthwhile information on

a topic you are interested in learning more about.

Another way to receive a 10% discount is to attend Pippi's Customer Appreciation Day on Sunday, June 14th, from 10 am to 4 pm. As always, refreshments will be available for your enjoyment while you stroll the ever-expanding display gardens.

I hope you take the time to enjoy your summer and take pleasure in your garden.

- Vicky Hilleges

Attracting Birds to the Garden

A few people that weren't able to attend the April garden club meeting on attracting birds to the garden have asked me to share a little about what was presented. Although there is limited space here to go into detail, I can list the main ideas.

One of the best ways to increase the variety of birds that visit your garden is by creating and managing plant communities that mimic natural habitats. Include plants that are important food sources and cover plants to protect them from predators and extreme weather. Creating a backyard habitat can be as simple as increasing the variety of vegetation and minimizing mowed lawn. When selecting your plants, emphasize layering (tall, medium, and

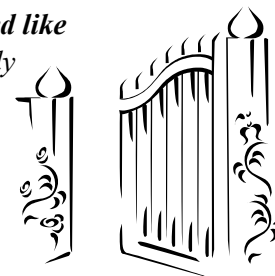
short plants) and clumping of native (bird-attracting) plants. The range of plant shapes, sizes, and densities will offer birds a greater selection of perching and nesting sites in additions to providing cover.

Native plants often attract a variety of insects that use the plants as a food source and the birds in turn will eat the insects. There are many native plants that also provide food in the way of seeds and fruit. Providing a variety of plants that bloom and fruit at different times will ensure that the birds have a food supply throughout the year.

Check out the next page for a list of plants available at Pippi's that will enhance your garden for both you and a wide variety of birds.

Garden Gate Chat

Why did my neighbors ornamental grasses look full and lush this spring while mine looked like mounds of brown stalks? Your neighbor may have cool weather grasses that tend to leaf out early in the spring and bloom early in the summer. Calamagrostis or Feather Reed Grass is a good example of a cool weather grass. You may have a warm weather grass that doesn't fill out until the warmer weather of late spring or summer. Examples of warm weather grasses are Pennisetum (Fountain Grass) and Miscanthus (think zebra grass).



Pippi's Plant Spotlight



Geum flora plena 'Blazing Sunset'

a.k.a. Avens

Large, fully double, scarlet red flowers are produced over a long period from late spring to mid summer.

- ❖ Sun to part shade
- ❖ 24" tall
- ❖ Cut flower
- ❖ Attracts butterflies
- ❖ Deer resistant
- ❖ Zones 5-7



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Gift Certificates Available

Pippi's Perennials for the Birds

Providing a food source for the birds throughout the seasons in an important consideration if you want to keep your winged friends coming back. The perennials below are organized by the season they provide nectar or seed. Select plants from each category to provide a continuous food source.

Spring

Amsonia 'Blue Ice'
 Baptisia
 Dicentra eximia
 Phlox

Summer

Agastache 'Blue Fortune'
 Aruncus dioicus
 Asclepias tuberosa
 Chelone lyonii
 Echinacea
 Gaillardia
 Liatris spicata
 Monarda
 Oenothera
 Penstemon
 Phlox
 Rudbeckia

Late Summer/Fall

Aster novae-angliae
 Cimicifuga ramosa
 Echinacea
 Eupatorium
 Solidago



Special Dates

Pippi's Garden Club

August 31st @ 6:00 pm:
Topic to be announced

Pippi's Customer Appreciation Days

June 14, 10 am - 4 pm
 Sept. 13, 10 am - 4 pm

Check out www.pippis.net
 for updates on special events.

Pippi's Locations & Hours

CNY Regional Market Authority:

2100 Park Street
 Syracuse, NY

Open: May 2nd – Oct 17th

Thurs. 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM (Shed A/19&21)

Sat. 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Shed D/10+12)

Home Location:

12 Sherry Lane
 Kirkville, NY 13082
 (Sherry Ln. is located off Fyler Rd.,
 ¼ mile east of N. Kirkville Rd.)

Open: April 22th – Oct. 17th

Wed. & Fri. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Or By Appointment

New Hours

