Issue No. 6

Newsletter Exclusive

February 1, 2025

Ferguson's Garden Club





February is here, and that means signs of spring are popping up every day at Ferguson's! We love this time of year because it marks the start of planting season and plenty of time spent in our warm greenhouses. First on our list this year—perennials! Each year, we expand our knowledge and grow even more varieties, and we can't wait to share them with you. Plus, it's when our shipments for the upcoming season start rolling in—new plant varieties, fresh pots, and exciting gardening solutions. Spring is just around the corner, and we're ready!



It's February and that means Valentines
Day is just around the corner! We have
some fantastic gift options for the
people you love! Give the gift that
grows! Call, shop our website, or stop in
to see all of our Valentines Day options.

- Beautiful Houseplants
- Garden Statuary
- Gardening Essentials
- Gift Cards
- & So Much More

How To Grow Citrus Indoors

Growing citrus plants indoors requires plenty of bright light, ideally from a sunny south-facing window or supplemental grow lights. Use a well-draining potting mix and a container with drainage holes to prevent root rot. Keep the soil consistently moist but not soggy, and maintain humidity by misting the leaves or placing a tray of water nearby. Since indoor citrus lacks natural pollinators, you may need to hand-pollinate by using a small brush or cotton swab to transfer pollen between flowers. Regular feeding with a balanced fertilizer designed for citrus will help promote healthy growth and fruit production. At Fergusons, we get in a few different varieties of citrus plants! We LOVE the cocktail bush, it produces both lemons and limes! be sure to look for it this spring!



Meyer Lemon (Citrus limon)

Bugs Happen....

We are excited to share that we're shifting to a more proactive approach focused on preventing pest problems, rather than simply reacting to the occasional inevitable

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insect invasion with harsh chemicals. By using natural predators and botanical products, we are dedicated to keeping your plants healthier while minimizing disruptions. While bugs are a natural part of life, we believe this more sustainable, biological approach will improve both the health of your plants and your overall shopping experience.



Better Bags, Less Waste

We're so excited about our new reusable bags! We had a blast designing them and can't wait for you to check them out. You'll get one free with a \$50 purchase, or you can grab one for just \$2.

The best part? Every time you bring it back, you'll save 10% on one item that fits inside. A little perk for shopping sustainably!



Winter Tree Pruning by Barb

Now is the perfect time to think about pruning your trees and shrubs! Pruning is the intentional removal of specific plant parts for the benefit of the whole plant. It's not a solution for poor plant placement, but rather a tool for training, maintaining plant health; improving the quality of flowers, fruit, and stems; and controlling growth. While it is possible to prune any time your tools are sharp and clean, there are definite advantages to pruning late in winter! In fact, January and February is the only time recommended to prune oak trees because the insects that spread Oak wilt and other diseases from an infected tree to healthy trees are not active in February. Additionally, with the branches bare of leaves, it is much easier to see the tree's structure and any broken or crossing branches that need to be removed. Pruning now makes for less weight and waste, making your project easier and more efficient. Plus, pruning wounds heal most quickly just before spring growth begins as the plant seals off the cut faster. Don't worry if you see sap oozing from the cuts as temperatures warm- this is natural and will not hurt the plant! Pruning young trees is especially important to ensure they develop a strong central leader and healthy branches for years to come.

Late winter is also the time to prune non-flowering shrubs and those without showy flowers. Feel free to cut back spiraea, potentilla, panicle hydrangea, barberry, burning bush, dogwood, and neglected or overgrown shrubs. Wait a little longer for weigela, macrophylla hydrangea (I.e. Bloomstruck and Summer Crush) and hardy roses so you can see what has died-back over the winter. It is best to wait until immediately after flowering for spring bloomers like lilacs, rhododendron, forsythia, & viburnum.

Pruning your trees and shrubs can be a rewarding task that most people can do with a little time and the right tools, but it's important to follow some basic guidelines to ensure a successful outcome. And, of course, always prioritize safety-don't tackle anything that is out of reach from the ground or that you don't feel comfortable doing!

Here are some key "Do's" for a successful pruning project:

- Make sure your tools are sharp and appropriately sized for the task at hand.
- Start by removing any broken or dead branches.
- Next, remove any branches that are rubbing against each other, your house, other plants, or nearby structures.
- Shape the tree or shrub to be uniform and well-balanced.
- Learn the proper cutting techniques (University Extension websites are a great resource for helpful illustrations on cutting locations and angles.)
- Above all, prune with purpose-know why you're making each cut.

Here are a few important "Do Not's" to keep in mind:

- Don't cut too much at once-you can't put it back.
- Avoid "topping" trees, which can harm their structure.
- Never leave stubs above the bud or branch junction, and don't cut too close to the bud or into the branch collar.
- Most importantly, if it doesn't feel safe to do alone, don't hesitate to ask for help or leave it to a professional.

By following these simple do's and don'ts, you'll ensure your pruning is both effective and safe. Happy gardening!

February Events

Houseplant Happy Hour February 13th 4-6pm Progressive Houseplant Sale 10% off 1, 20% off 2, 30% off 3,

Dipladenia Presale

February 1st through March 1st 10% off red, pink, & white Dipladenias in 10" Hanging Baskets, 10" pots, & 10" pots with a trellis. 40% off 4, & 50% off 5 or more Drinks and treats provided For pick-up after May 1st Stop in, call, or oder online

EXCLUSIVE DEALS

Make sure to show us your coupons at the register!





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