



# TREE-BUNE

**30th Annual Plant Sale**  
**Saturday, May 13, 2006 9:00 am - Noon**  
**Cattle Congress, Estel Hall, Waterloo, Iowa**

## FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Spring is just around the corner—trees are budding out, crocus and daffodils are peaking out of the ground, the grass is starting to turn green—everything is coming alive!! Rain showers bring May flowers, as well as our 30th annual GREEN SCENE Plant Sale, which will be held on Friday, May 12 (members only), and Saturday, May 13.

All you gardeners out there, come and see what's available this year. We promise that you'll find just what you've been wanting for your "indoor/outdoor living rooms." Trees and shrubs, as well as all kinds of fascinating and stunning plants: houseplants, native plants, pond plants, wildflowers, perennials, plants for trough and alpine gardens, butterfly garden plants, herbs, hostas, etc.—plants, plants, and more plants—for all gardeners, old and young!!

Come one, come all—we're looking forward to seeing you there. Until then, think spring and GREEN SCENE!!!!

*Ruth Elliott, Green Scene President*

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Each year we depend on many volunteers to help put on the Plant Sale, and it's those volunteers who make it the success that it is.

There's a lot of behind-the-scenes work that goes on all week in order to be ready for Saturday's sale. The week of the sale, we need volunteers in the areas of potting, watering, labeling, digging, and hauling the plants. Working as cashiers, working at the tables, and carrying plants for customers are just a few of the many things our volunteers help with on the day of the sale.

The sale itself is dependent upon our volunteers. Thanks to all of you who have helped over the years! It's a great way to learn more about plants, and many friendships have come to be during this week.

If you would like to be involved in this year's sale, please call Sara at (319) 266-4409.



**Please bring your own box when you come to the Plant Sale.** Each year we pick up hundreds of boxes, and we always run out.

### thanks to our sponsors

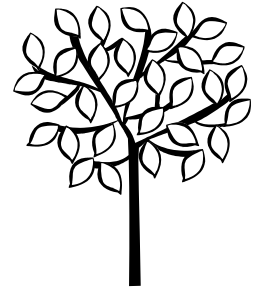
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# YARD & GARDEN TIPS

## Tree Staking

A tree needs to move to be healthy. Even though staking trees is a common practice, it shouldn't be because it inhibits the healthy growing of a tree. Staked trees result in a thin tree known as a 'lollipop tree'. The tree's unhealthy diameter is the result of bad staking. It forces the tree to grow quickly—tall and thin, often having the same caliber from the ground up, which means the tree has no strength. When buying trees, look for smaller trees. They won't need a stake to begin with. Next look for a tapered base. It should be thicker at the base and taper to a small diameter towards the branches.



If you absolutely must stake a tree, stake it properly. Place the stakes at right angles to the prevailing winds so that the tree can move back and forth without hitting itself on the stake. Keep the stakes 12-18 inches away from the trunk so that the roots have room to stretch out. Use garden tape or panty hose to tie the tree to the stake. Remove the stake within a year.

## Q. My soil is so heavy and compacted that I can't dig a proper planting hole. Any suggestions?



A. This problem is very common, especially in new construction areas. The solution is fairly simple, though. Rather than struggling to dig a hole in your compacted soil, which is not very healthy for your plants anyway, dig the hole to whatever depth you can reasonably get to. Then make up the difference in depth you need by creating a raised bed for the tree. Create a raised bed with stones and backfill with soil and top off with a thick layer of mulch.

If your soil has a high clay content, here are some examples of plants and ornamental grasses that do well:

Giant Sunflower *Helianthus giganteus*  
 Daylily *Hemerocallis* spp.  
 Silver Grass *Miscanthus sinensis*  
 Bee Balm *Monarda*  
 Lamb's Ear *Stachys byzantina*  
 Stonecrop *Sedum* spp.  
 Butterfly Weed *Asclepias tuberosa*  
 Aster *Aster* (various)  
 Tickseed *Coreopsis*  
 Coneflower *Echinacea purpurea*

Gayfeather *Liatris*  
 Black-eyed Susan *Rudbeckia*  
*Grasses:*  
 Big Bluestem *Andropogon gerardi*  
 Canadian Wild Rye *Elymus canadensis*  
 Eulalia Grass *Miscanthus sinensis*  
 Switch Grass *Panicum virgatum*  
 Fountain Grass *Pennisetum* (various)  
 Indian or Wood Grass *Sorghastrum nutans*  
 Prairie Cord Grass *Spartina pectinata*

## How Much Sun is Full Sun?

We all know that plants require different amounts of sun, but just how many hours does full sun really mean?

**Full Sun** is at least 6 full hours of direct sunlight. Many plants like more than 6 hours per day, but make sure you water regularly (not during the hottest part of the day) so the plants can endure the heat.

**Partial Sun / Partial Shade** means 3 - 6 hours of sun each day, preferably in the morning and early afternoon. If a plant is listed as Partial Sun, greater emphasis is on the minimal sun requirements. Partial Shade plants need some relief from the hot afternoon sun, either from shade provided by a nearby tree or planting it on the east side of a building.

**Dappled Sun** is similar to partial shade. It is the sun that makes its way through the branches of a deciduous tree. Woodland plants and under-plantings prefer this type of sunlight over the direct exposure they would get from partial shade.

**Full Shade** means less than 3 hours of direct sunlight each day, with filtered sunlight during the rest of the day. Full shade does not mean no sun at all; there aren't many plants that can survive in the dark.



# 2006 PLANT SALE

This year's plant sale is going to be very exciting. Not only is it our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, but we are introducing many new varieties of plants and several new areas in addition to the wonderful varieties of plants we always have, including the 2006 Perennial of the Year Dianthus-“Firewitch”.

Some of the new areas are Dwarf Conifers and Alpines, Unusual Annuals, Native Plants and Grasses, and Butterfly Gardens, along with the Collectors Corner and Companion Plants we introduced over the past couple years.

We always have a great time getting ready for the sale and want to be sure to invite you to join us at Estel Hall the week before, Monday, May 8, through the day of the sale, Saturday the 13th. There's a lot to do from digging to potting, pricing plants, arranging and re-arranging, etc.... Be sure to volunteer for one of the days of the sale too. We can use your help anytime, and I promise you'll meet some really great people and learn a lot.

*Linda Schulte, Plant Sale Chair*

Here is a list of some of the **new varieties** you can look for at the sale:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Agastache</b> Acapulco Salmon Pink                 | <b>Eupatorium</b> Chocolate Joe-Pye Weed           |
| <b>Aguilegia</b> Little Lantern                       | <b>Fern Aspel</b> Dragon Tail                      |
| <b>Ampelopsis Elegans</b> Porcelain Vine              | <b>Gallardia</b> Fanfare                           |
| <b>Andropogon</b> Silver Sunrise                      | <b>Geum</b> Prairie Smoke Triflorum                |
| <b>Antennaria Dioca Rubra</b> Pussy Toes              | <b>Gentiana Sep. Var. Lag.</b> Gentian             |
| <b>Astrantia</b> Ruby Cloud                           | <b>Leontopodium Alpin</b> Edelweiss                |
| <b>Buddleja Altern Argentea</b> Silver Butterfly Bush | <b>Lupine</b> Morello Cherry                       |
| <b>Baptisia</b> Minor Dwarf                           | <b>Poa Abbreviata</b>                              |
| <b>Clematis</b> Violet Elizabeth                      | <b>Polemonium</b> Stairway to Heaven (variegated)  |
| <b>Clematis Integrifoli Rosea</b> Bush Clematis       | <b>Pulmonaria</b> (lungwort) Polar Splash          |
| <b>Delosperma C. Gold Nugget</b> Ice Plant            | <b>Salix Arctica Petraea</b> Willow                |
| <b>Delosperma Kelaidis</b> Mesa Verde                 | <b>Sesleria Autumnailis</b>                        |
| <b>Dianthus</b> First Love                            | <b>Sesleria Caerulea</b> Moore Grass               |
| <b>Echinacea</b> Big Sky Sundown & Big Sky Sunrise    | <b>Viola Grypocera Exilis Korean</b> Korean Violet |

I recently read that the American Society for Horticulture Science found that gardeners are happier people. Well, I don't know about you, but this gardener will be a lot happier when she can get in the garden!

The spring catalogs have arrived, and there are some new plants for 2006 that look very promising.

At this year's Green Scene sale, we will have “new for 2006” plants along with “new to the sale” perennials.

I am sure you will find a must-have for your garden. See you there!

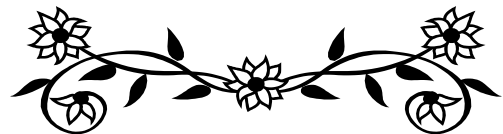
*Sandra Kokotan*

## 2006 PERENNIAL OF THE YEAR

Firewitch Dianthus

Botanical name: *Dianthus gratianopolitanus*

- Blue-tinted foliage with hot-pink flowers that have a spicy clove fragrance.
- Grows 7-8” tall and wide.
- Hardy in zones 3-9.
- Grows best in loose, well drained, slightly alkaline soil with full or part day sun.



The best time to plant ground covers is in the spring. Most ground covers multiply by underground stems or by trailing runners so, depending on the variety, they may be planted anywhere from six inches to a few feet apart.



# HOSTA

## Hosta Lovers Take Note!

This year we are trying to fill everyone's needs. From small to large, green to blue, we hope to have a variety of hosta for everyone. Some are tried and true, while others are new offerings this year. Following is a list we hope to have by sale day:

Big Daddy	Lakeside Contender	Praying Hands
Big Top	Lakeside Ripples	Rich Uncle
Blue Angel	Minuteman	Robin Hood
Cat's Eye	Moonstruck	Rosedale Golden Goose
Emerald Ruff Cut	Northern Exposure	Spring Fling
First Frost	Olive Bailey Langdon	Stained Glass
Guacamole	Orange Crush	Summer Breeze
Happy Camper	Orange Marmalade	Templar Gold
Hidden Cover	Pathfinder	Twilight Time
Hippodrome	Patriot	Victory
Jaz	Paul's Glory	Yin
June	Peanut	Plantaginea "Aphrodite"
Kabuki	Peppermint Ice	
Kiwi Skyscraper	Powder Blue	

We're always looking for companion plants to our hosta. Whether it is a new fern or pulmoneria, it's always fun to try new plants among the hosta. Look for our Companion Plant table near the hosta. Share your ideas with us when you come and be a part of our great sale. Gardeners are always fun to talk to. If you have hosta you would like to share, please call our dig team.

*Sharon Jordan*



# DWARF CONIFERS & ALPINES

If you're looking for a new gardening idea this year or a new twist on rock gardening, let us introduce you to trough, or hypertufa, gardening. What is trough gardening? It's a type of container planting with alpine and/or dwarf conifers. In the beginning, these gardens were actually planted in real troughs. Now we use Portland cement, peat moss, and perlite to recreate this stone look, and just about any type of container will work for a form. The Internet has many good recipes for making these containers and formulas for soil mixture. We will also have a printout at the plant sale on May 13.

Plants for trough gardening may include but are not limited to *Androsace sempervivoides* (Rock Jasmine,) *Antennaria dioica* (Pussy Toes,) *Draba aizoides* (Whitlow Grass,) *Saponaria ocymoides* (Soapwort,) *Sempervivum* (smaller types of Hens & Chicks,) *Silene acaulis* (Moss Champion,) and *Veronica allionii* (Compact Blue Speedwell.) Miniature or dwarf types of conifers such as *Chamaecyparis* (White Cedars,) *Juniperus*, *Picea* (Spruce,) *Pinus* and *Tsuga* (Hemlock) are other good choices to try. Plants that grow only 6 to 8 inches tall look best. Stop by the table at the plant sale and see what we have available. Be the first in your neighborhood to have an alpine garden!

*Jacky McGrane*



Visit our new web site at [www.greensceneinc.org](http://www.greensceneinc.org)

It's not too late to become a Green Scene member. If you have not paid dues since May 2005, you need to fill out this membership form. Members will receive an invitation to the Pre-Sale held Friday, May 12.

**Beat the crowds and Renew now!** Please check your mailing label. If it has no due date on it, you are not a current member and need to renew your membership.

**Become a member of Green Scene. Help us beautify Black Hawk County with a contribution:**

- \$10-\$24 Friend       \$25-\$49 Contributing       \$50-\$99 Sustaining       \$100+ Steward

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

Your pledge is 100% tax-deductible. Green Scene is a volunteer-run, non-profit organization. Your membership dues go directly toward the purchase of trees in Black Hawk County. **Thank you for your support!**

Make checks payable to:

Green Scene

P.O. Box 2004

Waterloo, Iowa 50704



## PLANT DONATIONS

Please consider donating to our plant sale any plants you would like to divide, share with others, or just get rid of. Plants can be delivered to Estel Hall Monday, May 8, through Thursday, May 11, from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Our volunteers are happy to come to your garden to dig and/or pick up any plants that you are unable to deliver to the Cattle Congress grounds. Call by May 1 so that we can arrange a collection date for your plants. We'll be very busy the week before the sale; it's important to schedule a specific date for your plants to be collected.

Call Dennis at (319) 233-4252 if you have plant donations that need to be dug or if you would like to be on a dig team. It helps tremendously if we know the variety and color of the plant that is being donated. If you bring plant donations to the sale, please place freshly dug plants in doubled-up plastic grocery bags. Write clearly with a permanent marker on the outside of the bag as much information as you know about the plant, and please water the plants well before you bring them.



## HOUSEPLANTS

Obviously, with the arrival of spring, many gardeners aren't thinking about houseplants. The plant sale, however, is a great time to shop for houseplants that can make a big impact in the appearance of your home for a very small price. Stop by to check out the nice assortment of plants of all sizes and shapes to fit your home's decorating and lighting needs. Plant sale staff can help you find just the right plant, from no-fail to more unusual varieties for the more experienced grower. The houseplant area is also the perfect place to shop for Mother's Day. We'll have adorable, tiny viola pots for the little ones to give to mommy and a nice variety of flowering and foliage pots and baskets done up beautifully for gift giving or treating yourself! See you there!

*Jan Prideaux*

Green Scene  
P.O. Box 2004  
Waterloo, Iowa 50704

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## Happy Anniversary!

This year marks our 30th anniversary. Most people know us by our Plant Sale, but if you don't know much about our history, we'd like to share it with you!


We began as Project Pride, a Waterloo-Cedar Falls Junior League task force to study other mid-western community tree planting programs. On April 1, 1976, the Junior League turned the project over to the metro area residents. Co-chairing the fledgling Green Scene organization were Jan Guthrie and Bill Jenner.

Green Scene was patterned after Iowa City's Project Green, a community beautification project begun in 1968 as an outgrowth of urban renewal. The real impetus for Green Scene, however, was the devastating loss of 30,000 metro area trees over the previous two decades to Dutch Elm disease and wind damage. Even by planting 500 trees per year, it would take 60 years to replace the dead, dying, and damaged trees. It became Green Scene's mission to improve the our community by the planting of trees and shrubs.

We are sustained by the work of our volunteers and the proceeds from our annual plant sale. Thanks to our volunteers, sponsors, and communities, we have contributed well over half a million dollars to county beautification efforts over the last 30 years.

### Types of plants we'll have at our 30th Annual Plant Sale...

- Trees and Shrubs
- Houseplants
- Native Plants and Grasses
- Pond Plants
- Perennials
- Wildflowers
- Herbs
- Hosta
- Butterfly Garden
- Dwarf Conifers and Alpines
- Unusual Annuals
- Collectors' Corner
- Companion Plants
- Ground Covers
- Roots and Tubers
- Vines

  
Because of liability concerns, **we cannot allow** wheeled vehicles (carts, wheelbarrows, strollers, wagons, etc.) in the building at the Plant Sale.