

ENCHANTED

NURSERIES & LANDSCAPES

2 0 0 7 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

ENCHANTED FOREST

10611 FM 2759
RICHMOND, TX 77469
281-937-9449

ENCHANTED GARDENS

6420 FM 359
RICHMOND, TX 77469
281-341-1206

WWW.MYENCHANTED.COM

Enchanted Moments



What an Enchanted Evening!

We would like to thank everyone that joined us for one of our Enchanted Evenings. The lights, wine, music and all our wonderful visitors made this an enchanting and memorable night. We look forward to doing this again! Check out our calendar for a chance to shop and relax under the lights one more time this season.

The Gift of Memories

Whenever cool weather arrives, I always think of gardening--perhaps more so than in the Spring. Cool weather plants have a special charm. Their flowers are vibrant in color and they stand proud against the cold.

As I have said many times, when I was a child, there were very few garden centers in the suburbs of Houston. The local feed store was more or less the center of gardening. The colorful seed racks beckoned to all! Bulbs for sale were pretty much non-existent so bulbs were shared between friends and neighbors.

One of the many flowers that my mother adored was the ranunculus. One of the few luxuries that she allowed herself was an annual order of two hundred ranunculus tubers. You could never guess where we ordered them from. Each year, Foley's (yes, that's right, Foley's!) would advertise ranunculus in a tiny ad tucked away somewhat obscurely in the Houston paper. Oh, how I do miss Foley's. As a child, I thought everything beautiful was housed at Foley's. To walk through the large glass and brass doors was to walk into a wonderland and that wonderland was filled with exquisite sights and scents. In the years before shopping malls, there was

only one Foley's and it was on Main Street. I was certain that at least a few beautiful princesses resided in that magical place (perhaps they did!).

When our ranunculus arrived in the mail, my job was to dig one hundred small holes on each side of our front walk. Each little tuber was placed ("claws down") in its winter "home". Now I know that soaking the tubers overnight in a bowl of warm water give the tubers a "head start".

Unbelievable events occur in the soil during cool winter days. Though we cannot see it, roots are pushing their way through the soil and sending water and nutrients to newly formed leaves and flower buds. Perfection is the description of the ranunculus flower. The double flowers are in jewel tones of red, orange, rose, pink, and yellow with some bi-colors. Oh, what a day brighter in late winter! The flowers may be cut and brought indoors, however it was the custom to leave them so passers-by could enjoy them too!

It has been said that "Good things come in small packages!" Well, this certainly holds true as well for gardening. Take joy in the many small wonders of life!

---Betty

"Nature is full of genius, full of the divinity, so that not a snowflake escapes its fashioning hand."

Henry David Thoreau

Cool in the Shade

CYCLAMEN-

Cyclamens are often thought of as decorative holiday plants, but are wonderful plants in the garden as well. Staying under 12 inches tall, this lovely mound of color thrives in any well-drained soil during our cooler months. (Nov. to April) Plant in a shady to partly shady location. They will do particularly well in raised beds or containers to aid in good drainage which is absolutely necessary. Available in shades of red, white, purple and pink with attractively patterned leaves, these beauties are a must for the shadier areas of your garden (or of course bring them in for the holidays!)



PRIMULAS-

Primroses bloom in shades of white, pink, purple and blue. Like the cyclamen, the primrose can be grown indoors or out. Treated as an annual which blooms late Winter through early Spring they will be covered with fairy-like blossoms all through the season. For best results, plant in shade or morning sun exposure and provide excellent drainage. I am certain these will become a new favorite in your winter garden!



NEW ARRIVAL : Purple Pixie

(Loropetalum chinense 'Shang-lo' PPIP)

"Purple Pixie" is a new dwarf version of an old favorite. Reaching between 12 and 24 inches tall with a spreading habit and intense purple foliage the possibilities in the landscape are endless. Similar to her big brother, "Purple Pixie" produces bright pink blooms in Spring with occasional Summer and Fall blooms. The groundcover nature of "Purple Pixie" makes it the perfect choice for flowerbed borders, mass plantings, containers and even hanging baskets. To contribute to healthy growth, plant in full to part sun and water moderately once established.

"There is no value in life except what you choose to place upon it and no happiness in any place except what you bring to it yourself."

Henry David Thoreau

Revive Your Crape

By Dub Sabrasula

"CRAPE MURDER", the excessive, unnecessary pruning of crape myrtles, is a familiar term to most gardeners today. The belief that crape myrtles need extensive pruning to create more flower buds is just untrue. Every year in every gardening newsletter and garden section of the local paper we read about the evils of CRAPE MURDER along with how to correctly prune them. But what if someone has been committing CRAPE MURDER and your trees look knotty and deformed? You can correct past mistakes.

If you, your maintenance company, or even the previous owner is guilty of crape murder, you can make amends. Fortunately, crape myrtles are hardy, resilient, and forgiving plants. For crapes that have been only slightly abused, that is, not trimmed at the same height annually or over a two to three year period, the crapes will heal themselves once selective pruning is carried out. However, for knotted, gnarly older crapes that have been repeatedly pruned in the same location, the repair process is more extensive but doable. Using the opposite principles and practices that created the gnarly knots on our crapes, we can eliminate these eyesores and revive our crapes to their intended natural shape.

The first step in reviving your crape is to allow some of the suckers that inevitably sprout from the base of the tree to remain. Do not prune all of these suckers, allow them to grow, and cultivate them into new trunks over the next few years. For each two suckers that you save, remove one entire gnarly trunk from the mature crape. This may require the use of a saw as these are often too thick in diameter for most pruning sheers to handle. This process, over two to five years, will give you a batch of new vigorously growing juvenile trunks on your crapes and will greatly improve the shape and blooming of these beautiful landscape trees. Although this may seem like a long time to repair or revive the trees, remember that the conditions that resulted in their deformity is the result of years and years of poor pruning practices.

Restoring your crape myrtles to their natural shape and beauty can prove to be a rewarding task. With proper care and pruning, these beautiful trees will enhance your landscape for years to come.



Santa Claus is Coming to Town!

When & Where:

Enchanted Forest

Saturday December 8th 11:00 - 3:00
10611 FM 2759 Richmond
281-937-9449

Enchanted Gardens

Saturday December 15 11:00 - 3:00
6420 FM 359 Richmond
281-341-1206



After taking photos with Santa and telling him all your holiday wishes, join us in making some special holiday crafts and enjoying yummy refreshments. There will be live music in the gardens for an enchanting holiday shopping experience. We hope you will join us!

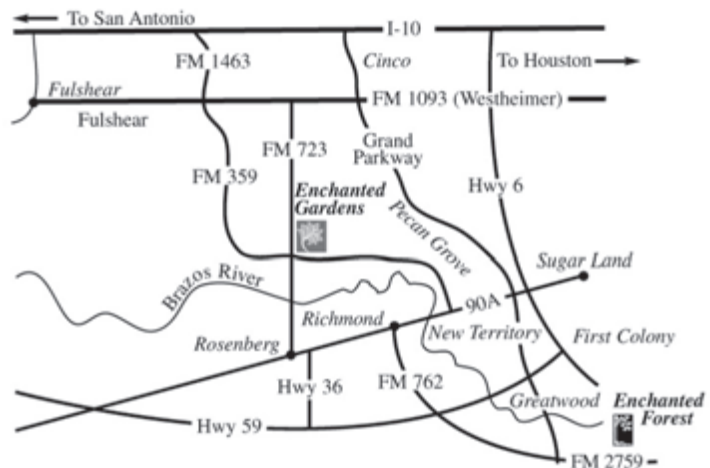


HOLIDAY SPECIAL

4 ½ inch
Red Poinsettias

\$2.88
(Reg. \$4.99)

Perfect for table accents or tucking in for lovely holiday color!!!
(while supplies last)



Your Home for the Holidays

Toffee

You may have sampled this delicious toffee at the Enchanted Evening. It was made by our kind customer and friend Pam Lam. Thanks Pam!

- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup pecans
- 6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate chips

Cream butter and sugar in heavy saucepan. Cook slowly and stir often over medium heat until mixture reaches 282 degrees on a candy thermometer. (This takes approximately 20 minutes.) Remove from heat and add nuts. Pour immediately onto a buttered cookie sheet and spread to an even thickness- it will not cover the entire cookie sheet. Let sit for 2-3 minutes, then cover with chocolate chips and spread the chocolate over toffee as the chips melt. Set aside for 15 minutes then refrigerate until cool. Break into pieces and store in airtight container. ENJOY!!!

Enchanted Gift Giving Ideas

Let us help you find the perfect gift for that special person on your list. A few ideas...

- Enchanted Gift Certificates
- Custom Container Gardens
- Talavera garden art
- Garden statuary and fountains
- Colorful ceramic garden mushrooms
- Randy Lemon's Gardening book
- Amaryllis bulbs
- Orchids and bromeliads
- Holiday collectibles
- Garden gloves and tools
- Wind chimes
- Citrus Trees
- Stationary
- Candles
- and more...



Go GREEN this Holiday Season

This year consider some GREEN decorating choices that will also help keep our planet beautiful. A few of the following will easily fit into your home and give you lasting enjoyment.

Poinsettias in our warm climate can actually be put in the garden in the Spring. Some last for many years!

Christmas Cactus are very easy to grow and make wonderful "pass-along" plants. They require shorter daylight hours to bloom.

Orchids are so beautiful and each variety is unique. They can be grown indoors for the holidays but prefer ample humidity and will thrive on the covered patio during the warmer months. (Check our Spring newsletter for "Orchid Growing Tips")

Bromeliads have to be one of the easiest things to grow! They will add color and beauty to the indoors for months and are just as happy in a little shade outside during the warmer months. Another great "pass-along" plant.

Amaryllis are stunning forced indoors for the holidays and sooo very easy. We have heard stories of them blooming in the trunk of a car when accidentally forgotten!! Move them into the garden after their holiday highlight and they will bring back fond memories every Spring!

Cyclamen are beautiful among holiday decorations or in arrangements with poinsettias. They will do beautifully in the house for months or can be placed in a shadier spot in the garden and enjoyed until the warmer months arrive.

Norfolk Island Pine is a lovely Christmas tree substitute or addition to holiday decorating. They will do well in the house for months and can make a lovely addition to the garden or a container on the patio that can be brought indoors for the holiday season each year.

Topiaries come in many varieties that can be used indoors and out. Eugenias are a handsome topiary form that make a great front door entry statement used in pots or urns. We also carry topiary forms in English Ivy, Rosemary and Angel Vine that make beautiful accent pieces.

Holiday Coupon
\$5.00 off any fresh wreath
(Not valid with any other coupons/discounts)

FRESH CUT WREATHS AND GARLANDS

Enjoy the fresh scents of the holidays when you bring home freshly cut wreaths, garlands and bouquets. Greet guests with a beautiful fresh wreath on the door or add warmth and beauty inside with a fresh garland across the mantel. The possibilities are endless!

Enchanted Landscapes

If you have been dreaming of a spring spent in a lovely and tranquil garden now is the time to make your dream come true! Let our designers walk you through that dream garden and make it a reality. Our personalized services include:

Landscape Design; Landscape Installation; Water Features; Patios and Pathways; Garden Structures; Sprinkler Systems; Drainage solutions;and making dreams come true!

PLANT ALERT

Has this happened in your garden? Plant begins wilting, leaves appear off-color, leaves drop, and finally the plant dies. In a large number of these cases this is probably resulting from the weeks of rain and cloud cover in July/August that brought on root rot which eventually prohibits the plants ability to take in water through it's roots. With the later drought-like conditions, with very little to no rainfall for many weeks, the plants are under severe stress. If your plants have shown some of these symptoms but are still hanging on try using Root Stimulator or Medina to encourage new root growth but do not fertilize at this time.

Some plants that may be affected include (but not limited to): Newly planted roses, Pittosporum, Japanese Yew, Wax Myrtle, Purple Sage, Aztec Grass, Liriope, Rosemary, all gray and silver foliaged plants and Cleyera.

If you are having problems in your garden let us help you! Bring a sample of the plant and/or critters that are bugging you and we will try to diagnose the problem... as well as find the quickest and easiest cure!

FROST BLANKET

Frost blanket is a special light blanket designed to protect plants by keeping them 5 to 7 degrees warmer than the air temperature. Since the blanket is very light and breathable you can leave it on for days without harming your plants.

Frost cloth can be purchased in pre-cut packages (10 ft x 12 ft @ \$9.99) or let us cut to custom-fit your flowerbed or special plants. Stakes are also available to hold cloth in place.



Tips: Water plants well before freeze and after to prevent dehydration. Insulate pots with cardboard and then cover entire plant and pot with frost blanket.

BE PREPARED...don't wait until the last minute! At the first mention of freezing weather there is always a run on the cloth and we inevitably sell out.

Tree Time

The temperatures have finally cooled and it is time to think about adding new trees to your landscape. Take advantage of our cooler months to give your new trees a head start! The roots of trees and plants grow at soil temperatures above 40 degrees and this is the case during a large part of our winter. So during the winter months the root systems of these planted specimens begin to develop and become established. When spring arrives, the already established root systems allow the trees to develop a visible growth surge and not just to the roots. In addition, by the time the hot and often strenuous summer months arrive, the tree's roots are well established and ready to take it on without as much stress to the tree. We all know how quickly the heat returns so make a plan for your trees now!



Trees

I think that I shall never see
A poem lovely as a tree.

A tree whose hungry mouth is prest
Against the sweet earth's flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day,
And lifts her leafy arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear
A nest of robins in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain;
Who intimately lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,
But only God can make a tree."

- Joyce Kilmer, 1886-1918,

"Beauty enters your heart through all the senses and the beauty grows stronger when more than one of the senses is involved."

Thomas Kinkade

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar

Saturday December 8.....Santa Claus at the Forest
 Visit with Santa while making some fun crafts and sharing yummy treats with friends and family.

Enchanted Forest 11:00 - 3:00

Saturday December 15.....Santa Claus at the Gardens
 Another opportunity to visit with Santa and make some holiday crafts. Enjoy yummy treats and listen to holiday tunes

Enchanted Gardens 11:00 - 3:00

Thursday December 27.....Enchanted Day After the Day After Sale
 Come shop and relax in the gardens and as the sun goes down enjoy a glass of wine under the twinkling lights. A last opportunity to enjoy the evening lights at the nurseries if you missed the Enchanted Evening events. (See details below.)

Enchanted Forest and Enchanted Gardens 12:00-7:00

Saturday January 19.....Tree Tips for Gulf Coast Gardeners
 Join our own LP while he shares tips on tree choices, planting and tree care. His years of experience will prepare you for choosing just the right tree to beautify your landscape.

Enchanted Forest 11:00 - 12:00

Day After the Day After Sale!

When: Thursday Dec. 27 12:00 - 7:00

Where: Enchanted Forest and Enchanted Gardens

Escape the crowds, slow down and relax in the gardens. Shop the specially priced merchandise indoors and out. As the sun goes down enjoy a glass of wine while strolling the gardens under the twinkling lights. Bring friends and family to share an after Christmas shopping delight.

**Please note that the nurseries will open at 12:00 on this special day.



WWW.MYENCHANTED.COM

Free 6 inch Poinsettia with \$25 purchase Expires Dec. 24, 2007 Limit 1 per customer (Not valid with any other sales or coupons.)	\$5 Off each purchase of \$50 or more (excluding landscaping services) Expires Feb. 10, 2008 (Not valid with any other sales or coupons.)
Winter Hours Mon. - Sat. 8:30 - 5:00 ♦ Sundays 10:00 - 4:00 Closed Dec. 25 & 26 and Jan. 1st Early Closings at 1:00 Dec. 24 & 31 Late Opening at 12:00 Dec. 27	

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