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Monthly Newsletter

December 2009

OAKLEAF HYDRANGEA I (Hydrangea quercifolia)



The Oakleaf Hydrangea is a wonderful American native shrub for partial to almost full shade. Unlike other hydrangeas, flower color does not vary with soil pH. The large flower clusters remain on the plant for months, gradually turning from cream to pinkish to rusty red. The flower clusters don't fall apart when dry and are very attractive in floral arrangements. The stems and branches, with their exfoliating tan, orange and cinnamon bark, provide winter interest. Oakleaf hydrangea is an understory shrub, often found in the wild under the shade of large oaks, hickories, & magnolias.

DECEMBER MEANS 25% OFF ALL LARGE TREES & SHRUBS !

(Container trees & shrubs 7 gallon or larger, in stock.)



Crepe Myrtle / Crape Myrtle tidbits:

The deciduous crape myrtle is among the longest blooming trees in existence with flowering periods lasting from 60-120 days. Crape myrtles come in heights as short as 18" and as tall as 40'. After the blooms, the fruits appear (those black/brown 'balls'); when the fruit dries it splits open and seeds are released.

No other discounts apply for the 25% off large tree sale.

NATIVE TREES & SHRUBS

Florida Sweetshrub/Carolina Allspice (*Calycanthus floridus*) is easy to grow in average soil, is easy to care for and is essentially pest-free! It thrives in medium shade to bright sun. Use sweetshrub in natural areas and woodland gardens where it can sucker freely and assume its natural habit. Sweetshrub is also nice in planters near entryways and patios where its delicate fragrance can be enjoyed.



Dry the flowers, leaves, twigs and bark to use in potpourri.

FALL HERBS

Winter Savory (*Satureja Montana*) is a 1', dark green, semi-woody, herbaceous perennial. Easy to grow, it makes an attractive border plant for any culinary herb garden. Plant where it can get about 6 hours of sun a day in soil that drains well. Supple sprigs that push up from the ground and new side shoots off the older woody stems are perfect for fresh or dried use. Prune heavily several times a year to produce more lush growth. **Winter Savory** is a great mixing herb. It blends well with oregano, thyme, sage, fennel seed, basil & bay. Its small leaves are the perfect compliment to herb cheeses. Even though it has a strong flavor when fresh, it does not hold up well to prolonged stewing so add at the last minute. There are few dishes that a little Winter Savory won't make better.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE and WINTER HOURS

CHRISTMAS: We will be closed from Tuesday, Dec 22 through Friday January 1st, 2010. Open Jan. 2nd.



WINTER HOURS:

Monday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday ... 9 - Dusk
Sunday ... NOON - 4pm
Tuesday, Wednesday ... Closed

VETIVER

Vetiver is the grass to use for erosion control. Unlike most grasses, vetiver does not form a horizontal mat of roots, rather the roots grow almost exclusively downward up to 6 - 10'. This makes vetiver an excellent stabilizing hedge. The close growing culms also help to block the runoff of surface water. It is non invasive and can easily be controlled by cultivation of the soil at the boundary of the hedge. Vetiver is also cultivated for the fragrant essential oil distilled from its roots. Sun.

