



ADA STORE
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419-634-0351

Visit our website at:
www.newleafgardencenter.com

KENTON STORE
927 E. Columbus, Rt. 67 by Shopping Plaza
419-675-2718

May hours for both Stores: M-F 9-6, Sat. 9-4, Sunday 12-4



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“Container-scaping” Gardening gone to pot!

A big colorful flower pot brightens any deck or patio. But that's where most people stop, typically with the familiar pot of red geraniums surrounding a spike in a pot by their door. But with “Container-scaping” you can take your potted plants to a new level. Container-scaping, a hybrid buzzword for landscaping with container plants, has been gaining popularity and offers a fairly easy way to add color to a home's exterior without digging, weeding and battling the bunnies.



Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- In its simplest form, a containerscape can be a simple triangle of three pots, preferably of at least 2 different sizes. Use bigger pots to the back and smaller ones in front. Use containers of the same color, shape or texture, or tie the grouping together by picking a plant theme color and repeating it in all three pots. Or use one particular plant as a unifying element in all of the pots..
- An elegant alternative is to go with one variety of plant in each pot, such as all petunias or all zinnias, instead of a combination of plants in each pot. Then arrange the pots so the sizes, forms and textures look good with one another.
- Use containers not just on porches or patios, but in garden beds to add height and color. Hide less-attractive garden areas with the right container and plantings. Rescue bare spots where something has died or gone dormant, such as bleeding hearts or spring flowering bulbs.
- Soften or camouflage architectural features by using containers strategically.
- Big bold containers will make a more sophisticated impact while numerous small containers will give more of a cottage garden feel.
- The right container in the right spot will act as a focal point for the patio or garden, almost like a piece of art. Go vertical with a small trellis or an obelisk and use a black-eyed Susan vine, morning glories, cardinal climber or any other annual vining plant to give height and interest.
- Use taller, larger containers with upright plantings to create rooms or screens, use to direct or stop traffic flow, like at the edge of a patio.

How to plant a container

1. Select a pot that has drainage holes. Place a thin layer of drainage materials in bottom of pot. 2. Fill container three quarters full of a lightweight, soilless potting soil. Use a potting soil that contains slow-release fertilizer. Mixing in some water-holding polymer crystals, such as **Soil Moist**, will help with watering. 3. Use the formula of **thriller, filler & spiller**. A “thriller” is a tall centerpiece plant. Then build around it with a few “fillers”, plants that will complement but not overwhelm the main plant. Finally add a “spiller” or a plant that tumbles over the edge of the pot. 4. Fill in around plant roots with more potting soil and press lightly. Water thoroughly. 5. Don't forget that you can plant a combo planter of vegetables or annual herbs, too! Throughout the season water your containers regularly, which will probably mean daily during hot weather - and water until it drains out the holes in the bottom. Pinch off spent blooms as needed. After 3-4 weeks, feed regularly with a water-soluble fertilizer. We recommend **Jack's Fertilizers** which promotes lush foliage, vibrant color & abundant blooms.

Now the only thing holding you back from great looking containers is your own imagination!

Our Favorite Thrillers, Fillers & Spillers

These are just a few of our favorite plants we use for combination planters:

Thrillers – Spikes, Cordyline, Annual Grasses and Asparagus Fern

Fillers – Petunias, Geraniums, Coleus, Diamond Frost Euphorbia, Zinnias, Marigolds, Rieger Begonias (shade), Impatiens (shade), Dusty Miller & Salvia

Spillers – Sweet Potato vines (Ipomoea), Bacopa, Calibrachoa, Vinca vine, Bidens, Creeping Jenny, Trailing Verbena, Alyssum and Lobelia

“thriller”

“filler”

“spiller”



Plant a Kitchen Herb Garden

Cooking with herbs should be as easy as going to your pantry for those dried out ones, right? Instead, how about creating a conveniently located **culinary herb garden** & use fresh herbs in your cooking daily.

There are 3 rules for deciding where to plant your herbs: **LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION.**

1. Plant it as close to the kitchen door as possible, but keep in mind the next 2 rules.
2. Plant it in full sun so the herbs will grow denser foliage, darker color and higher levels of essential oils that will provide better flavor.
3. Put your kitchen herbs in their own garden, the vegetable garden or other inconspicuous place where you won't hesitate to chop them off.

While herbs are suited for landscaping, you may find it stressful to cut your perfectly trained Rosemary by the front door or your uniform border of Thyme lining your driveway. Plus, herbs need to be trimmed often to encourage fresh, leafy growth instead of flower heads.

Start with the Soil - One of the greatest myths about growing herbs is that they will grow in almost any soil. They are in fact like all plants that prefer a nice healthy, loose soil. Good drainage is an absolute must. It's easiest to amend the soil, preferably with compost, before the garden is planted. Herbs have coarse roots that benefit from chunky organic matter. These larger particles of soil also provide the air spaces necessary to keep the plants from drowning. Soil can also be improved by mulching the ground heavily after planting.

Grow Herbs in Containers - If you have no yard, grow your herbs in pots and keep them close to your kitchen door. When planting an herb pot, select a container that has at least a one-gallon capacity. Each plant will need its own gallon of soil, so if you plant several together, make sure they have enough space by measuring your soil. Any high quality commercial potting soil works fine. Adding one part perlite to three parts potting soil will improve the drainage for herbs. Strawberry jars work great for this, too.

Herbs to Start With – Start with some basic herbs or choose ones that you already cook with.

Basil – is a popular, tender, annual herb grown for its aromatic leaves. Fresh basil is used in tomato sauces, salads, pesto and more.

Chives – a perennial herb used for herbal vinegars, fish, salads, vegetables, potatoes, soups and egg dishes. Blooms are also edible.

Dill – use leaves, seeds, flowers and stems for soups, fish, lamb, rice, salad dressings, sauces, egg and potato dishes and pickles.

French Tarragon – use with fish and shellfish, pork, beef, poultry, egg dishes and vegetables. Add to dressings, salads and tartar sauce.

Mint – use young tender leaves and stems in teas, cool drinks, sauces, fresh fruit, tomatoes, potatoes, egg dishes, ice cream & cream cheese.

Oregano – use in tomato sauces, yeast breads, marinated vegetables, roasted meats and fish, in egg dishes, salsa, chili and cheese spreads.

Rosemary – use with poultry, fish, lamb, beef & pork, vegetables, cheese and eggs, salads, herb butters and cool summer drinks.

Thyme – use with meats, stews and cheese.

Using “fresh from the garden” herbs is the ultimate reward for the gardening cook. Hopefully you will try a few, wander through your garden and pick herbs that will highlight your meal tonight. Enjoy!



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT



Check inside for details!

Garden To Do List

May

Average Frost-Free date is May 15th! Watch the weather reports and cover plants with old blankets or sheets if necessary. **DO NOT** use plastic!

Garden

- Plant tomato and pepper plants and most other annuals when danger of frost has passed but watch the weather.
- Add **gypsum** to the garden to loosen clay soil and help prevent blossom end rot on tomatoes and peppers.
- Not picking asparagus? Plant some **now** for next year.
- Continue or start a fruit tree spray program after blossom petals have all dropped so bees aren't harmed.

Perennials

- Start treating roses to prevent disease and insect damage. Use **Bayer All-in-One Rose and Flower Care**, **Bonide Rose Shield** or **Bonide Rose Rx Systemic Drench**.
- Place plant supports around tall perennials before they reach 6" tall. We carry a variety of plant supports.

- Plant summer flowering bulbs such as Gladiolus and Cannas early May and Dahlias toward end of May.
- Fertilize and deadhead your repeat blooming roses after the flowers fade to encourage a 2nd bloom.
- Pinch back your garden mums and asters by half after they are 6-8" tall. Repeat this process again mid-July.

Annuals & Containers

- Plant annual flowers and seeds of summer annuals after last average frost date May 15th. Remember to fertilize regularly as annuals are heavy feeders! We recommend **Jack's brand** fertilizers.

Landscape

- Prune spring blooming trees & shrubs right after blooming before they start setting buds for next year.
- Prune back any winter damage on trees and shrubs.
- Keep your blue hydrangeas blue by adding **Aluminum Sulfate** around the base of the plant.
- Edge and clean up landscape beds, apply **Preen** weed preventer and then a light cover of new mulch.
- Fertilize trees, shrubs with **Fertlome Tree and Shrub** or **tree spikes**, and perennials with **Fertlome Premium Bedding Plant Food**.
- Put out hummingbird feeders and watch for their return.

Lawn

- Apply broadleaf weed control. A granular weed & feed needs to be applied when grass is wet for the herbicide to work. Or a liquid weed killer can be applied at any time except when rain is expected.

New Leaf Garden Center is celebrating its 30th year in business!

But this will also be its last year in business as I have decided to retire. I have been working in this industry for more than 45 years, and there comes a time when you just need to have time to "Stop and smell the roses!"

Not all of the plans are in place yet for what will happen to the stores, but the Ada Store is being sold and will NOT be a Garden Center.

As for the Kenton Store, I would like to sell it to someone who would keep it as a Garden Center and hopefully do landscaping, too. I have talked to some prospective buyers, but a buyer has not yet been found.

We will continue to do business as usual till the end of 2021, but all warranties and Gift Certificates from now on will have the expirations date of Dec. 15, 2021.

I have been doing what I love to do for all of these years, and not everyone can say that! But after two eye surgeries, and too many birthdays, I decided it was time. I will pass on more information in upcoming newsletters.

Thank you for your years of patronage, Laurie Laird

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

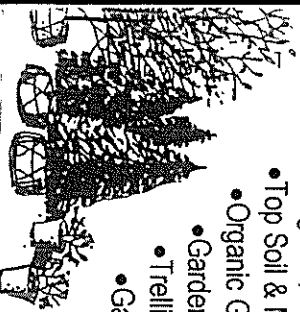


WE CARRY A LARGE SELECTION OF.....

Trees - Evergreens - Shrubs

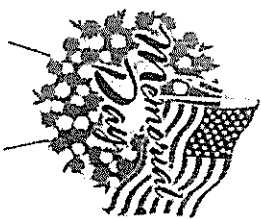
Plus everything you need for your lawn & garden!

- Ground Covers - Vines - Flowers - Perennials
- Fruit Trees and Fruit Plants
- Vegetable Plants & Seeds
- Patio Blocks - Decorative Stone
- Potting Soil, Peat Moss & Compost
- Top Soil & Mulch (bagged & bulk)
- Organic Gardening Supplies
- Garden Pond Supplies
- Trellis & Shepherd Hooks
- Garden Tools



REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES ON MEMORIAL DAY

- Cemetery Saddles & Vases
- Cemetery Wreaths
- Geraniums
- Bedding Plants
- Urns & Planters
- Silk Flower Bushes
- Memorial Stones & Flags
- Concrete Benches
- Decorative Solar Lights



We're OPEN Memorial Day 9:00 - 3:00

Sanygen Pool Chemicals

- Liquid Chlorine* - Algaecides
- pH Up & Down - Water Conditioners
- Pool Filter Sand - Pool Hoses
- Water Test Strips

PLUS Other Pool Supplies



*There is NO liquid chlorine shortage, only a shortage on chlorine tabs.