

New Lines For New Times

Kollman's has made some changes to their hard good lines to spice up our lives a bit. We have a new line of glazed pottery in earthy colors for the purists. We have also sprinkled –in some Redondo Blue and Sausalito Orange for some pop. They are heavy-duty, fired well to prevent disintegration, and will look great on anyone's patio or deck.

Upscale style and resin-made pots have the texture of stoneware and are suitable for indoors as well as outdoors. Its internal saucer provides a reservoir that allows for easy plant care with no leaks or spills.

A line sporting bowls, window boxes, and square pots are lightweight, eco-friendly, and reasonably priced. They are made of a unique blend of recycled materials- a mix of recycled plastic, stone powder and wood dust. They are weather resistant and durable. And finally, The Napa- a fun line with a weathered façade. It is a durable resin composite with a taller, more streamlined shape. It too has an internal water feature. And best of all, it comes in the cool colors of sage, grape, teak, and maize. They are all winners!

Previewing Flowers - What's New and Next at Kollman's

Annuals

- Supertunia Black Velvet**- a true, deep, dark, black flower
- Supertunia Pinstripe**- the same black flower with white stripes
- Sunpatiens**- more colors that thrive in sun and shade
- Canna Lilies**- a great specimen plant in awesome new, hot colors
- Dahlinova Hypnotica**- tall dahlia with large flower- resists powdery mildew
- Tall, tuberous dahlias**- good for cuts, save the tubers and plant next year
- Begonia Escargot**- large-leafed, resembles a curled snail
- Cassia Popcorn plant**- returns by popular demand

Perennials

- Amsonia hubrichtii**- **2011 Perennial Plant of the Year**
- Iris Tanzanian Tangerine**
- Aruncas Guinea Fowl**
- Sedum Postman's Pride**
- Lobelia Fan Salmon**
- Lewisia Rainbow Mix**



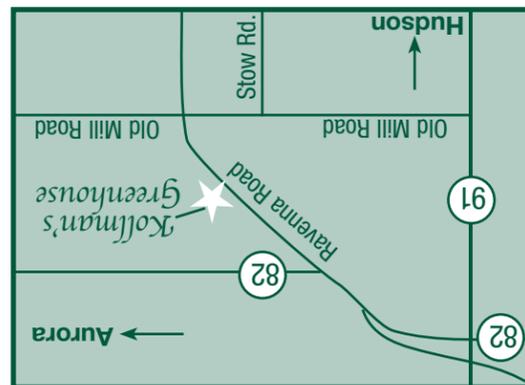
And don't forget to check-out our extensive line of heirloom tomatoes and patio peppers. It's all the rage to grow your own vegetables and fruit. This year we have Gooseberry and Boysenberry plants, as well as raspberry, strawberry, blueberry and rhubarb.

Put On Your Easter Bonnet

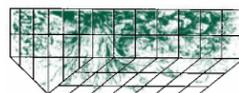
Lilies, Hydrangeas, Hyacinths, Tulips, Daffodils and Hardy Pansies are blooming with spring color and fragrance and available at Kollman's Greenhouse right now! Come in and select your favorite to add that final touch to your holiday table. (Bonnets Optional) We also supply churches!



Open for business from Easter through Spring
 Summer, Fall and Christmas, selling
 seasonal plants: flowers grown in our very own
 greenhouses; decorative fall items and fresh,
 holiday wreaths and greens.
 Check us out on the web!
www.kollmans.com



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Our Business is Growing



Spring 2011

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"It's spring fever. That is what the name of it is. And when you've got it, you want....oh, you don't quite know what it is you do want, but it just fairly makes your heart ache, you want it so!"

~ Mark Twain Tom Sawyer, Detective

Spring fever is the only illness we covet. We look so forward to it after the long and dreary winter doldrums. And I think Mark Twain got it right- we're not quite sure what we want, we just know we want it bad! I, personally, want it all.

I want blue sky and sunshine. I want white, puffy clouds. I want warm temperatures. I want to see the first crocus popping up by my brick walk. I want to hear the peepers at night. (And boy, are they loud- living across from Tinker's Creek) I want March to come in like a lion. I want to hear thunder. I want to see our Easter Lilies bloom over night. I want to smell the hyacinths in our greenhouses. I want to rake away the dead of winter and discover the new growth. I want to play an April Fool's joke on Scott. I want to go to the farm and run the legs off my dog, Joe Pretty. I want to smell the mulch as I walk by the pallets. (We used to smell the wine from the wine barrels, but we can't get them anymore.) I want to open my windows. I want to hang-out my sheets. I want to play outside with my grandson, 'cause he can walk now! I want to hear the rustle of the leaves on the trees when the wind blows. I want to sit by my pond with Scott, a glass of wine, and watch the minnows. I want my kids home for Mother's Day to open my porch and cook me dinner (hint hint- they get this newsletter). I want to lie in bed at night and listen to the toads singing their love songs to each other.

The cool and sure thing about Spring is that I will get everything above that I want- well, I'm not sure about Mother's Day yet, but I'll let you know- busy lives etc. etc. Who could ask for more in a matter of a few months?

And most of all, I want my great customers to return to our greenhouses, enthusiastic about the spring and planting season. I want to hear you ooh and ahhh over the vibrant colors of the flowers. I want you to fill your carts and plant your gardens with the goodness that will last for months. We will have it all for you, as usual, and are ready to serve- with a smile on our faces and a "Spring" in our step.



As Promised

Every spring we have a drawing for a terrific custom planter or basket. Congratulations to Carol Koudelka of Sagamore Hills, who won the *Sassy Cerveza Salsa Garden*, potted in a hand-painted tub. Mysteriously, the Coors Light, displayed with the planter, disappeared prior to pick-up of her prize. Who's to know?

Seventh Annual Spring Drawing

Sign up for a chance to win a **Pot 'o Funky Ferns and Other Enticing Textures**. It will be a treat to add interest to your porch or deck with this container filled full of ferns with personality and other equally interesting foliage. Just add water, feed regularly and watch it grow. What's not to like about a maintenance-free and **free** planter?



Find us on Facebook and watch how we grow!
 Facebook/Kollman's Greenhouse

www.Kollmans.com

Are You A Native Trendsetter?

It's the latest trend, it's big, and it's been with us all along. You probably didn't even know it. It's planting native plants.

Native plants are those that grow naturally in North America. They are known as an indigenous species. They are not to be confused with naturalized plants- those brought to us from elsewhere and have become established as part of the local environment.

What's the hook? Once established in the habitat they like, they thrive. Many adapt to a wide range of environments, but some have specific soil, water and light requirements. Native plants are easier to maintain because they require less watering, and are less susceptible to insect and disease problems. They also serve the environment by preventing water run-off due to deep-root systems, attracting insects that pollinate, and their seeds provide food for butterflies, insects, birds and other animals. They encourage the earthworms and microorganisms that promote healthy soils.

Now, can you pat yourself on the back because you were on the cutting-edge of this trend all along? I bet you can, if you plant perennials. Here is a short list of native plants to North America. Congratulations to those who can claim them in their gardens:

Yarrow	Cone Flower	Pachysandra	Coreopsis	Iris	Salvia
Bleeding Heart	Liatris	Phlox	Coral Bells	Black-eyed Susan	Viola

These are all plants we have been selling for years, and there are many more. When you are looking for that "easy to maintain, hardy & showy specimen" for your garden, just ask us!

Trend #2

Have you ever asked someone how they are, and their answer is "well, I'm vertical"?

Now, anyone at any age can respond the same way, that is, if you are a Vertical Gardener. And again, I know many of you are, without even knowing it. And again, you are a trendsetter!

Vertical Gardening can be oh so easy, or very complicated, depending on where your time and taste lies. It is the art of growing your plants upwards. It can be as complicated as constructing a living wall, planted with plants. And it is as simple as growing on a trellis. The 'tweeners are using gazebos, teepees, poles, or espalier

Of course, if you plant and install hayracks, porch boxes, and half-baskets, you're there. The purpose is to get the most out of your growing space. It is an ideal way to camouflage an unattractive structure. And there is no weeding! The tricky part is not necessarily the design, but solving the watering problem, especially if you go big with and install a living wall on a wall. But with a gardener's ingenuity, you can make it work. And at the same time, have quite a conversation piece while screening your personal space.



From Sue the Guru

These are funky and earth-mother reminders of the ancient and/or symbolic meanings of our favorite early bloomers, by Mary Lynn from jewels of the garden:

Grape Hyacinth- These were often given as a gift to those who were suffering from a recent trauma or stress. They help to dissolve hopelessness, despair, and depression.

Forsythia- It has been known as a catalyst for change, helping us become aware of our personal energy pushing us toward positive, energizing activities.

Narcissus- This is an uplifting symbol associated with resolving conflict by meeting it head-on, and alleviating worry.

Purple Crocus- It is known to be related to loss and grief. It enhances our ability to tune into the real cause of our pain and come to a resolution of those feelings.

Snowdrop- These encourage enthusiasm and a joyful exploration of life. They are associated with regeneration, deep cleansing, and renewal.

So says Sue the Guru: Play it safe and plant them all!

Tea For Two

Herbs have been around a thousand years and have time-honored uses for medicinal remedies, and enhancing the flavors of food and drink. Here are few herbal teas used as remedies then and now. Start with one teaspoon of dried herbs or three teaspoons of fresh herbs in one cup of boiling water. Let steep 5-10 minutes.

- Basil tea:** good for respiratory ailments; detoxifies the liver
- Lavender tea:** wards off depression; helps with sleep. (use flowers also)
- Mint tea:** aids digestion and calms upset stomachs
- Oregano tea:** reduces fevers, alleviates cold symptoms, reduces seasickness (use flowers)
- Parsley tea:** detoxifies the kidneys
- Sage tea:** gargle for inflamed gums, aids digestion, relieves sore throats. (use flowers)
- Thyme tea:** helpful for digestion problems.

Of course, you can brew your favorite tea and add a few leaves of herbs just to enhance the flavor. And let's not forget about Mojitos!

...Didja know

- Placing thyme under your pillow enhances psychic powers as you dream.
- Rub sage on your teeth to make them whiter.
- Wearing a wreath of parsley prevents drunkenness.
- Chew on dill seeds to stop the hiccups.
- Treat bruises and sores with calendula.

{thanks to Digging It by Bunny Henderson}



What's Bugging You

Remember the children's book That's Good, That's Bad? It translates beautifully into gardening. Everyone has insects in their garden, some good, some bad. Plants need insects for pollination- that's good. Insects threaten the life or purpose of the plant- that's bad. Here are a few common garden insects you can expect to see. Having trouble finding the solution to these pests? Come to Kollman's, we have the cure.

- a. Leaf Miners:** Larva from hatched eggs on the leaf, burrow inside the leaf tissue to feed. They leave a trail- those squiggly lines through the plant's leaves.
- b. Scale:** This insect is often mistaken for a disease. Scale adheres itself along the stems of the plant, and sucks on the juices, drying it out and causing serious damage. It looks like little bumps.
- c. Japanese Beetles:** We all know what they look like, and boy can they destroy a plant in no-time flat. And here's a little-known factoid. The bags sold to control the adult beetles were designed to attract the beetle to monitor their population size. If you like Japanese beetles, continue to hang those attractive bags, or come see us.
- d. Spittlebugs:** These are identified by the foamy clump you find on the stems and leaves. The foam is actually a camouflage for the tiny insect itself. It is hiding from its predators while it does its work. Don't be fooled!

If you really want an organic solution to your bug problems, here is a very old-fashioned garden tip from The Farm and Household Cyclopaedia- circa 1888:

"As an insect destroyer the juice of the potato plant is said to be of great value; the leaves and stems are well boiled in water, and when the liquid is cold it is sprinkled over the plants attacked with insects, when it at once destroys caterpillars, black and green flies, gnats, and other enemies to vegetables, and in no way impairs the growth of the plants. A peculiar color remains, and prevents insects from coming again for a long time."



No, it's not the Pinball Wizard with the miracle cure. It's this: The National Garden Bureau, on November 1, 2010, announced that 2011 will be the Year of the Tomato, and the Year of the Zinnia.

Every year since 1982, the National Garden Bureau selects one flower and one vegetable to be showcased in the "Year of the" program. These crops are chosen because they are popular, easy to grow, widely adaptable, diverse and versatile. So jump on the bandwagon and be the first in your neighborhood to plant these this year. Kollman's grows over 20 varieties of Tomatoes, and 15 varieties of Zinnias.

Hu-mus Appreciate A Little Garden Humor

It's corny, but mealy-ful and highly suggested for your garden:

1. Plant 3 rows of peas: peace of mind, peace of heart, peace of soul.
2. Plant 4 rows of squash: squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling, and squash selfishness.
3. Plant 4 rows of lettuce: lettuce be faithful, lettuce be kind, lettuce be happy, lettuce love one another.
4. No garden should be without turnips: turnip for service when needed, turnip to help one another.
5. We must have thyme: thyme for fun, thyme for rest (Did you ever wonder who has thyme to think of these diddies?)



Recipe of the Season

Here's a keeper for a tasty vegetable. Tuck it away until after the harvest. It's a wonderful choice for a vegetarian dish. A great side for St. Paddy's Day too.

MRS. O'BRIEN'S ROOT VEGETABLE BAKE

- 1 lb carrots
- 1 lb turnips
- 1 lb parsnips
- 1 C frozen peas, thawed
- 4 Tble butter
- ½ C bread crumbs
- Salt



Heat oven to 350 degrees. Peel and trim the carrots, turnips and parsnips and cut into relatively uniform 1-in. chunks. Place all root vegetable chunks in a pot large enough to hold them and add enough water just to cover. Add a pinch of salt. Bring to a boil and turn down to simmer about 15 minutes or until tender. Drain vegetables and return to empty pot. Add 2 Tble butter and mash the vegetables coarsely using a hand-held masher. Fold-in the peas. Melt remaining butter and mix with the bread crumbs. Place vegetables in greased casserole to fit, and top with bread crumbs. Cook for 20 minutes or until the top starts to brown.

Kollman's Koupon

Present this coupon for
\$5.00 off
 your next purchase of
\$50.00 or more!

Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Offer good through May 15, 2011.