

BROCK

FARMS

GARDEN WORLD

MAGAZINE

Roses NEW VARIETIES

Opening & Closing
YOUR POND

CHEF JEFF
ITALIAN VEGETABLE GARDENS

18 Popular
Hydrangeas

Ornamental
& FLOWERING TREES

COUPONS
-AND-
SAVINGS
INSIDE!
PG 36-37

And So Much More!

Photo Courtesy of Star Roses and Plants

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BROCK

FARMS

CONTENTS

SPRING 2017

FEATURES

- 7 Feed Your Lawn...Feed Your Soil
- 10 Chef Jeff
- 12 Garden Debut - Baby Gem Boxwood
- 18 Transform Your Landscape
- 20 Connect With Brock Farms
- 24 Feed the Soil that Feeds the Plants
- 26 Problem Solving Plants
- 36 Coupons & Savings
- 38 Shop Gift and Home Decor
- 40 The Beautiful Bougainvillea
- 42 Organics, Past and Present
- 44 Seasonal Care for Pond and Water Features
- 48 Roses New Varieties
- 50 Sunpatiens vs. Impatiens
- 54 Our Favorite Hydrangeas
- 60 Christmas at Brock Farms
- 62 Flowering Trees

Visit **BROCKFARMS.COM**

LAYOUT & DESIGN: KRISTEN ROSZKOWSKI
THE JOURNAL MAGAZINE

A Message From **EDDIE BROCK, JR.**

I sit here with great pride and awe to bring to you another great edition of Brock magazine. This is our sixth edition. With each passing year, I feel more honored and blessed to earn your business, conversations and long term relationships. This is not just a business. Brock Farms is a growing family from year to year. I have the pleasure of working with over 120 team members between our retail, farms, drivers, wholesalers and office. I have learned so much from everyone and am forever grateful for my staff. And to my clients; this magazine is for you! We are always working to offer you the best products and service. You are our priority! This magazine is here to steer you in the right direction when shopping for any and all outdoor needs. At Brock Farms, we are dedicated to bring you the best plants, supplies, home & gift decor and holiday items. We have been spending the past months attending trade shows in order to offer you the most innovative stock for 2017. In addition, we will continue to visit over 30 plus greenhouses and dozens of nurseries weekly to provide you the healthiest plant selection to ensure you a successful garden and gardening season.

Thank you again to my amazing staff and our new and repeat clients. My Brock family and I appreciate you. We will always push ourselves to continue to provide you the best!



HAPPY READING!

Ed Brock, Jr.

In Loving Memory



Angelina "Jean" Brock

11-25-1937 to 02-02-2016

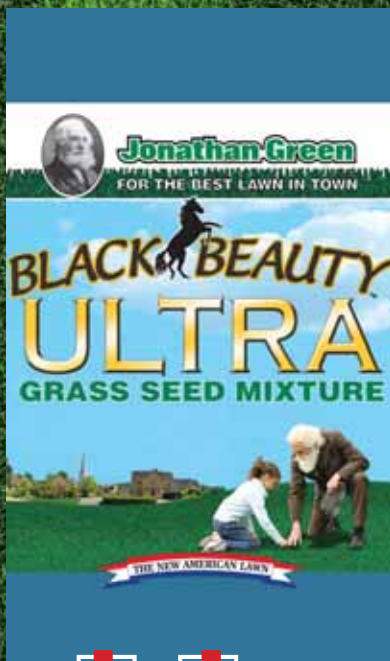
"FEEDING YOUR SOIL"

with

THE NEW AMERICAN LAWN®

is as easy as

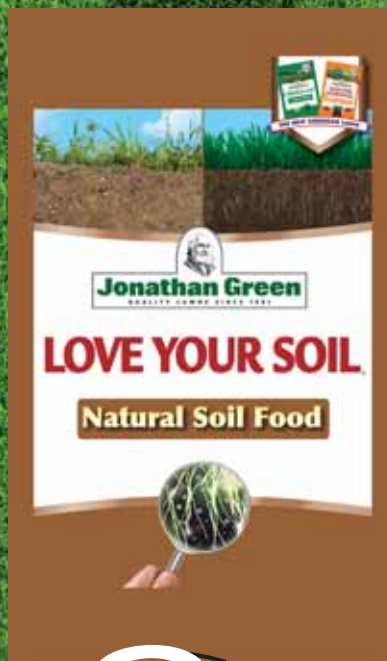
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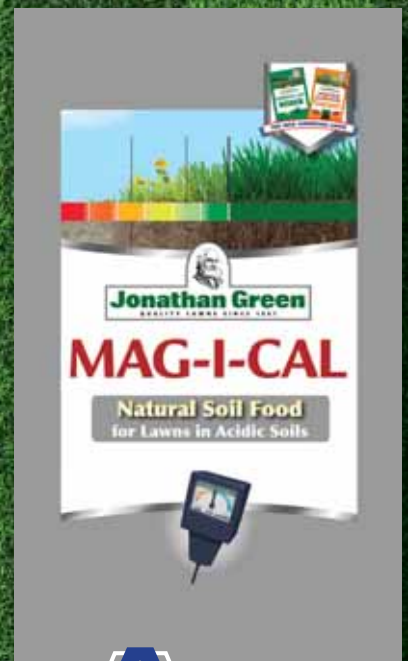
Genetically Superior
Black Beauty Grass Seeds



S

top

Soil Compaction and
Activate Microbes with
Love Your Soil



A

adjust

Soil pH with
MAG-I-CAL

FEED YOUR LAWN... AND YOUR SOIL!

A Revolutionary Approach to Lawn Care.

Soil is the foundation of long-term, healthy lawns. "The New American Lawn Plan" focuses not only on feeding the "top" of your lawn, like all fertilizers on the market, but, unlike all others, nourishes *the soil!* Healthy soil is the key to a great looking lawn.

Traditional lawn fertilizer programs alone are antiquated! They feed for a short time (usually two months) and deal with the symptoms of poor turf (weeds, disease, etc.) and not the problem (poor soil). In fact, feeding just the lawn every few months is like being on a "sugar" diet, providing a short jolt of energy without yielding sustained health. To make matters worse, lawn fertilizers acidify soil every time they're used. Lawns *must* have the correct soil biology (organically-rich, aerated soil with healthy microbial populations) and soil chemistry (proper pH) to thrive. Without this essential balance, nutrients that are in – or added to – your soil are wasted! "The New American Lawn" program changes this old approach by "balancing" the nutritional needs of turf with the proper amount of lawn food *and* soil food! Yes, that's right, *soil food*.

Love Your Soil and **MAG-I-CAL** are the two soil-reviving foods that make "The New American Lawn" truly different from every other lawn program on the market. **Love Your Soil** organically stimulates soil microbes so they release "trapped" soil nutrients while, at the same time, loosens compacted soil for deeper root growth. **MAG-I-CAL** adjusts soil pH to insure that nutrients from lawn fertilizers aren't wasted and the growth of weeds is reduced.

"The New American Lawn" also offers consumers **Black Beauty**, the *best* grass seed mixtures available on the market today! Remember, a lawn is only as good as the seed it's started from. **Black Beauty** grass seed mixes are genetically superior to competitors. **Black Beauty** varieties root up to 4 feet deep, contain a waxy coating to preserve moisture, and are naturally insect and disease resistant.



THE NEW AMERICAN LAWN®



Jonathan Green

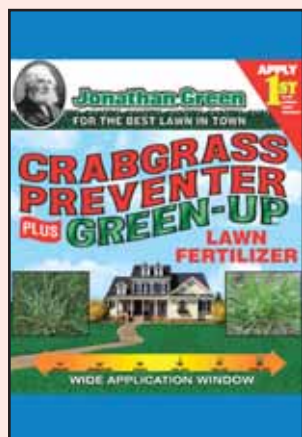
QUALITY LAWNS SINCE 1881

Visit www.NewAmericanLawn.com today for more details.



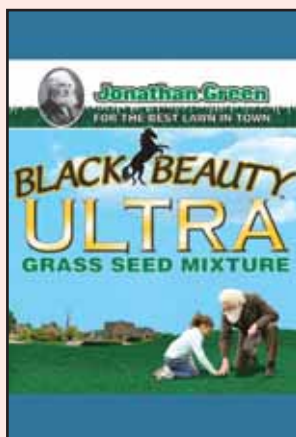
Rich Imlay from Jonathan Green
appearing at BOTH Brock Farms
Locations April 15th, 2017
Freehold Location 10AM - 1PM
Colts Neck Location 2PM-5PM
FREE SOIL TESTING

EARLY BIRD Spring Savings are here!



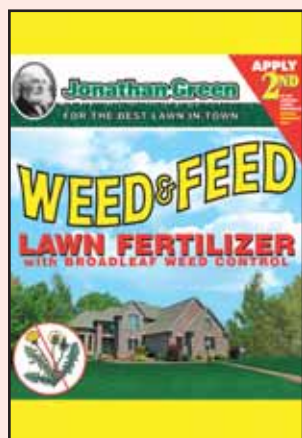
Jonathan Green Crabgrass Preventer Plus Green-Up

- Feeds and greens lawns
- Prevents crabgrass for the entire season..and kills crabgrass after it grows up to the 3rd leaf stage
- Does NOT stain walkways



Jonathan Green Black Beauty ULTRA

- Used by leading sod-growers across USA
- Roots up to 4' deep for great drought and disease resistance
- Incredibly dark green color



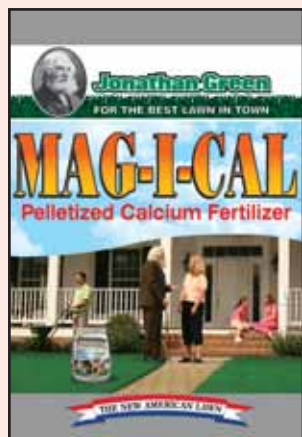
Jonathan Green Weed & Feed

- Feeds and greens lawns
- Kills dandelions, chickweed, clover and over 250 other broadleaf weeds.
- Apply to a wet lawn



Jonathan Green Black Beauty SUN & SHADE

- Specially formulated for sunny and shady areas
- Waxy leaf coating preserves moisture and prevents disease
- Rich, dark green color



Jonathan Green Mag-I-Cal

- Rapidly adjusts soil pH with highly soluble calcium
- Contains humates to FEED beneficial soil microbes



Jonathan Green-Up for Seeding & Sodding

- Special seeding fertilizer formula for faster and thicker germination
- Apply the same day the you spread seed or lay down sod
- Feeds for two months

THE NEW AMERICAN LAWN™



Jonathan Green

QUALITY LAWNS SINCE 1881

FEED YOUR LAWN ...AND YOUR SOIL!

USE THE **ONLY** ANNUAL LAWN PROGRAM THAT DOES **BOTH**!

3-PHASE LAWN PROGRAM



2-PHASE SOIL PROGRAM



- Feeds and greens lawns for three months!
- Prevents crabgrass all season long... and kills it after it grows (up to the third leaf stage)!
- Controls dandelions, clover and over 250 other broadleaf weeds!

- Feeds soil microbes with vital organic matter to unlock "trapped" nutrients in the soil.
- Breaks up hard, compacted soil for greater air, water, and root penetration
- Adjusts soil pH so lawn fertilizer nutrients aren't wasted and weeds are better controlled.

Reg. Price
\$108.95

COMPLETE LAWN AND SOIL PROGRAM

5,000 sq. ft. Program

\$88⁹⁵

YOU PAY

Final Price

**AFTER
\$20 INSTANT
REBATE**

15,000 sq. ft. Program

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YOU PAY

Final Price

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\$50 INSTANT
REBATE**

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Receive a \$100 Restaurant.com Gift Card
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Think of your favorite Italian restaurant.

Have that pictured in your mind? Now imagine what their kitchen looks like. What do you think their ingredients look like? Package herbs - dried and drained of their flavor? Frozen greens - harvested in some far-off land? I'd hope not! Let's assume that your imagining only the finest and freshest authentic foods. Fact of the matter is, the best Italian restaurants take as much pride in what they cook as they do how it tastes. Top-notch chefs and kitchens have their pick of the best ingredients and produce available. Yet, when I go to a grocery store, I can rarely find much more than typical everyday stuff.

This is unfortunately the case for so many of us that don't live in big cities. We don't have specialty produce markets and ethnicity-specific shops where you can buy those hard-to-find ingredients that often make or break your recipe. Thankfully, the team at Chef Jeff® have come up with a way for the home-gardener to bring those authentic Italian flavors directly to your back yard. New for 2017, we're happy to offer Chef Jeff's® Taste of Italy line of herbs and vegetables.

The program began around one of our managers wanting to grow Pepperoncini peppers. These small chili-type peppers are derived from an heirloom that has tons of flavor and a bit of heat. Being quite difficult to find in fresh form here in the USA, most people purchase them in a jar and have never had the delight of the outstanding flavor and firm texture of this amazing pepper. We saw a need for people to get this plant into their gardens, and it got us thinking . . . What other Italian veggies do we see in recipes or on fancy menus that we cannot buy in a store? From there the idea grew.

What about Italian string beans? These flat-podded beans are super-tasty, can be eaten shelled or not, raw or cooked, and are super easy-to-grow. I looked in our local grocery store (during early summer when they'd be harvesting them fresh) and found no Italian beans except canned. Canned!?!?! There's nothing like adding them fresh to salads, dipping and eating them whole, shelling and throwing them into a sauce, or baking them into a casserole - and you can't do all of that from a can!

1.

Barbarella
Eggplant



2.

Mama Mia
Pepper



3.

Gigante
Parsley



4.

Juliet
Tomato



5.

Pepper
Pepperoncini



6.

Tomato
Viva Italia



For the sauce-lovers in the family, Chef Jeff's® Taste of Italy has you covered there, as well. We selected a variety of tomato called 'Viva Italia'. This plum/paste type fruit gets top marks on multiple website ratings for being an incredible balance of great flavor, fantastic yields, and even better disease resistance. It's also a determinate tomato, which means it will reach around 30-36" tall and bear its fruit all at once. You'll be cooking Sunday gravy in no time!

You'll also find a snacking plum-type tomato called 'Juliet' in this line. This award-winning tomato matures to a size somewhere between a grape and a plum. It's great as a fresh snack or added to salads. Its meaty flesh also makes it work for sauces, pastes, and canning. Versatility, robust flavor, long shelf life, and great disease resistance make this indeterminate tomato an easy choice for a summer full of flavor.

While all these tomatoes, peppers, and such are great for your Italian dishes, it's most likely that none of them could get by without one important herb: parsley. And though you can find Italian parsley just about anywhere, we wanted to turn it up a notch and find something truly special. What we discovered was an heirloom variety called 'Giganted'Italia'. Its spicy and robust flavor will give that extra boost to your cooking and its vigor will keep it growing for an extended season.

There's more still, like a sweet pepper called 'Mama Mia' - producing heavy yields of bright orange super-sweet Italian-style peppers - and an eggplant called 'Barbarella' - an almost perfectly round, dark-purple eggplant derived from Italian heirloom varieties with intense flavor and high yields - and even a few in testing for the coming years.

From old-world classics to new selections bred for maximum flavor and minimum effort, this new line has fantastic variety to turn your dishes *delizioso*! And as time goes by, we're constantly on the lookout for more ideas and items that you, the gardening-chef, truly want but just cannot find. Now, one more time, let's think of your favorite Italian restaurant. Picture those fresh ingredients and those perfect dishes. Is there any reason this couldn't be your own kitchen?

Believe it or not, you can find amazing old-world flavor right in your back yard. Chef Jeff® Heirloom Vegetables offers a broad selection of plants that deliver taste like you cannot believe.

Much more than simply tomatoes, you'll find pole beans, peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, and more! Look for Chef Jeff® Heirlooms in dark green pots and discover the flavor you've been missing.

Chef Jeff® - Cultivating Happiness

•CHEF JEFF'S• Heirloom Vegetables

Available at . . .



Natural Gem

Baby Gem Boxwood encompasses all of the traits that gardeners covet for an addition to any new or existing landscape. Baby Gem is the first in the line of better boxwoods presented by Garden Debut®, specifically selected for compact habit, dense foliage and rich color.

In spring of 2009, in the small town of El Campo, Texas, grew thousands of the commonly-used Winter Gem Boxwood. While tending to this large crop, nursery workers found one Boxwood that stood out from the rest. This plant possessed finer, fuller foliage and a smaller, neater habit which were easy to see. No one could have dreamt of what was in store for this tiny Boxwood, although excitement stemmed from this rare find.... and thus, Baby Gem Boxwood was born.

Fast-forward to 2017. The once unknown Baby Gem Boxwood can now be found in garden centers across the country, including Brock Farms. This gem is in high demand, and for good reason.

IT TAKES A SPECIAL KIND OF BOXWOOD TO BECOME THE
Garden Debut®
NATIONALLY BEST-SELLING SHRUB. HERE'S THE HIGHLIGHT REEL:

.....

This boxwood reaches four feet in height and between four to five feet wide with its compact, mounding habit yielding year-round low maintenance.

.....

Handles shearing exceedingly well.

.....

Thrives in sun to partial shade.

.....

Cold-hardy to USDA Zone 5 (-20 to -10F), holding its true evergreen hue through the winter months.

.....

Full foliage to the base of the shrub provides improved aesthetic, but looks aren't everything; this shrub is tough!

.....

Drought-tolerant

.....

Heat-tolerant

.....

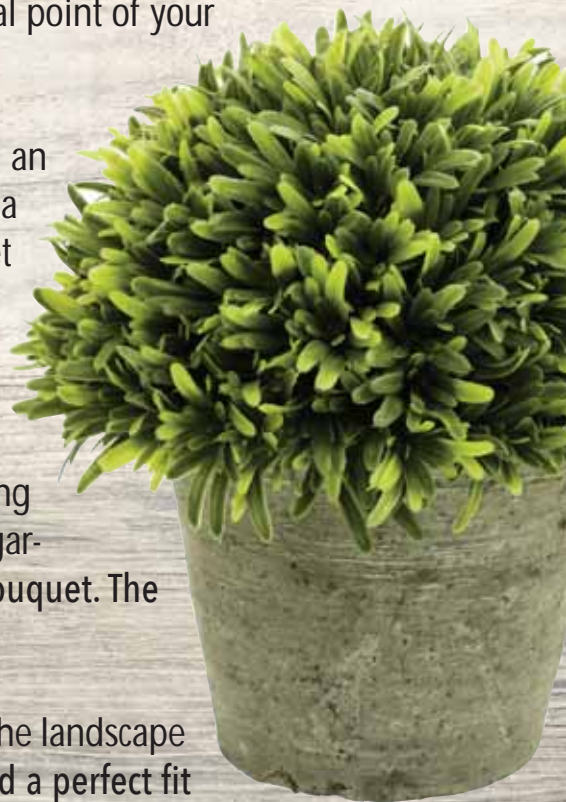
Deer-resistant

Baby Gem Boxwood boxwood is known for creating perfect hedgerows. However, the value of this gem is while ideal for borders, it also holds the potential to become a focal point of your home or landscape.

Trimming boxwood into shapes, such as cones or globes, creates an eye-catching aesthetic that invites interest to an entryway or creates a perfect pathway guide. These designs can be easily accomplished, yet add a unique flair enhancing both rustic and modern settings.

Garden Debut® Baby Gem boxwood foliage also makes for elegant home décor. Preserved or fresh trimmings can be used as garland in the wintertime, to make wreaths, or incorporated as baby or wedding shower decoration. A few boxwood sprigs can also be used as green garnish for gift-wrapping, or to add depth to a flower arrangement or bouquet. The possibilities are endless when creativity is allowed to blossom!

Selling millions of units per year, Baby Gem continues to perform in the landscape and look good doing it. Baby Gem is a perfect fit for your garden, and a perfect fit for The Garden State.



www.gardendebut.com

MAY *good* THINGS *grow*



**Baby Gem
Boxwood PP21159**



MOLES, RABBITS AND DEER...

These all natural animal repellents will send unwanted animals packing.



MOLEMAX®

Moles can quickly destroy your lawn or garden. MoleMAX is an all-natural mole, vole, skunk, and ground squirrel repellent. The castor oil active ingredient and our unique deep penetrating formula make the treated area unpleasant for the rodent or animal so they will leave your yard for more pleasant pastures. Available in liquid or granules, MoleMAX last for up to 30 days and is safe for use around people and pets.

SHOTGUN® REPELS-ALL®

No matter what's eating your plants or tearing up your yard, chances are Repels-All will chase it away. With more than 12 different nuisance animals listed on the label Repels-All works by scent, taste and touch to trigger the animals natural instinct to flee the area. Use on lawns, gardens, ornamentals or around edibles to effectively repel nuisance animals for up to 60 days. People and Pet safe, Repels-All has a "no quibble" satisfaction guarantee or your money back.



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Help your customers build their own personal paradise.

TetraPond® filters and UV clarifiers



keep ponds clean, clear and healthy.



Bio-Active Pressure Filters

For optimal biofiltration conditions. TetraPond's Bio-Active Pressure Filters (with or without UV clarifier) provide mechanical and biological filtration to help maintain clear, healthy pond water. Their specially designed open-profile bio-activators contain a large surface area with unrestricted water flow for improved cleaning. Also designed with an easy, backflush valve for fast cleaning. Includes a 2-year limited warranty.

Filtration Fountain Kits

Your all-in-one solution. TetraPond's complete filtration fountain kits are an all-in-one solution for adding a fountain—and a touch of beauty—to ponds. All kits come with three fountain heads (frothy, spray and bell pattern), swivel adjuster for leveling fountain heads, and diverter assembly.

Skimmer

Skim debris before it sinks. TetraPond's In-Pond Skimmer acts as a pre-filter for the pump, keeping the pond clean by skimming off debris or suspended matter before it sinks. It's easy to install and can be used with flexible or preformed ponds.

UV Clarifiers

Keep ponds algae-free. Dependable GreenFree® UV clarifiers help get rid of pond algae—or “green water”—for good, by using ultraviolet light to destroy the reproductive ability of microscopic, suspended algae. Heavy algae blooms are removed within days, leaving a cleaner, more beautiful pond.

Waterfall Filter

Create beautiful waterfalls quickly and easily. The mesh bag allows for the addition of bio-media (6-8 liters of Bio-Activators) for effective filtration for ponds up to 1,000 gallons. Easy to install and blend into landscape. Use with pumps 500 to 4,500 GPH. Includes a 2-year limited warranty.



TRANSFORM YOUR LANDSCAPE:

Just Add Water



When people think of their outdoor living space, patio furniture and outdoor grills typically come to mind. But once dining al fresco is over, what more is there to do in your backyard? Consider transforming your landscape with water! Whether you choose a meandering waterfall or a tranquil fountain, you'll enjoy the many benefits that water features provide.

Water creates soothing sights and sounds in the garden that help you relax and de-stress in today's busy world. Lower your blood pressure and improve your physical and mental health as you prop your feet up and enjoy the therapeutic effects of Mother Nature.

What's more, installing your very own waterfall or fountain becomes an easy weekend project when you use an all-inclusive kit. Self-sustaining, low maintenance, and energy efficient;

AquaScape DIY Backyard Landscape Kits come in a variety of decorative styles and fit almost any space!



A backyard waterfall is simply a re-circulating waterfall or stream without the presence of a pond. The water is stored in a sub-surface reservoir and pumped up and over the waterfall to create a stunning vision in your yard. Fountains also incorporate the in-ground basin and are available in a variety of styles and sizes to accommodate any budget.

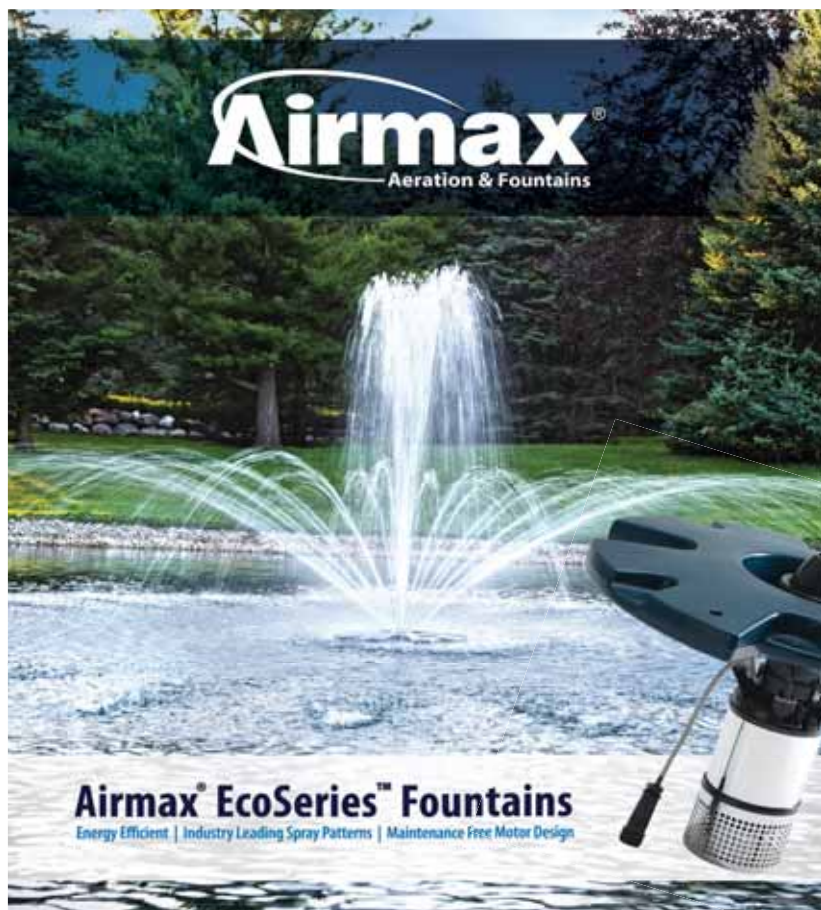
The AquaScape Backyard Waterfall Landscape Fountain Kit makes it easy to install a waterfall in your yard in just one weekend.

Your family will enjoy spending time outdoors by the water feature; children will discover new things about Mother Nature as birds, butterflies, and even frogs begin to show up! Your waterfall or fountain will drown out the noise of traffic and neighbors as you dine outdoors, creating a more peaceful backdrop. And if you leave the windows open at night, you can fall asleep to the melodic sounds of running water. Once you install your new waterfall or fountain, you'll wonder why you waited so long to get your feet wet! To learn more about getting started with water features, visit aquascapeinc.com.



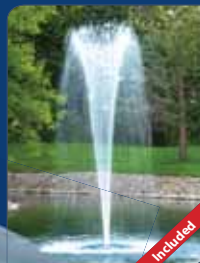
An Aquascape Backyard Waterfall Landscape Fountain Kit incorporates an in-ground reservoir, called an AquaBasin® that houses a pump to efficiently re-circulate water up and over your waterfalls.

To purchase a DIY Backyard Landscape Kit, visit or call Brock Farms today!



EcoSeries™ Fountains Complete Fountain Kit Includes:

- ½ HP Fountain Pump
- Power Cord w/Strain Relief
- Underwater Quick Disconnect
- Stainless Steel Wrapped Motor Lead
- Control Panel w/Timer and Photocell
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extra advice for
your next project?

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We know how busy daily life is with one day meshing into the next. Please do not stress! We are here to take the burden out of your shopping experience at Brock Farms so you can shop when it is convenient for you!

If you need an appointment and help from one of our specialists, we can do it in the evening on your time schedule and after store hours. We are here to accommodate you and your needs. Check your calendar, availability and call us to make an appointment. We hope to shop with you soon during the hours that fit into your busy schedule!

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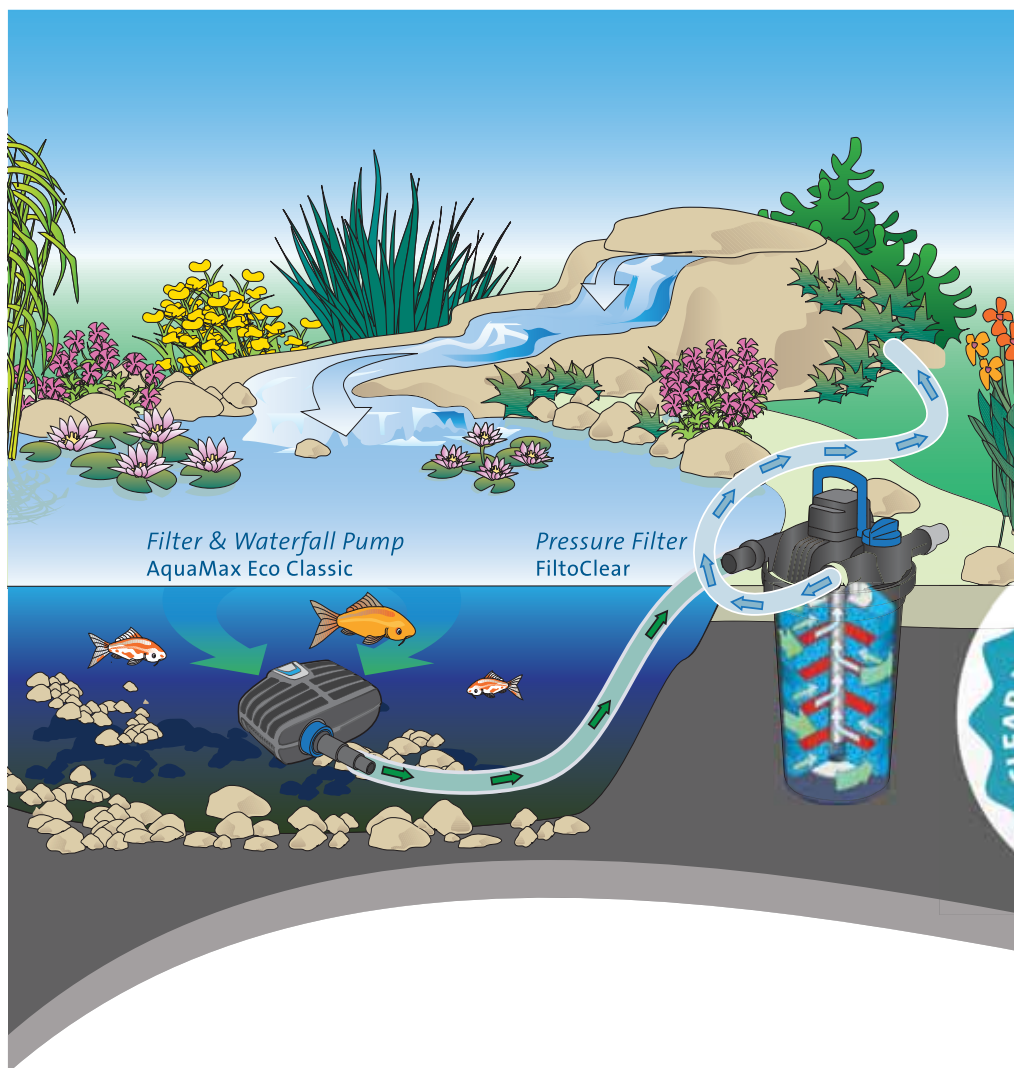


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ANNUALS



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PERENNIALS





»Clear Water Guaranteed«

Oase

LIVING WATER

The OASE Clear Water Guarantee (CWG) addresses and resolves the top issues pond owners have:

- green water
- maintenance time



AVAILABLE AT BROCK FARMS

When a pond owner uses the appropriate CWG products they are guaranteed to have clear water and minimal maintenance.

For a complete listing of products and more information about the terms and conditions of the Clear Water Guarantee visit www.oase-livingwater.com/na/cwg

OASE – PASSIONATE ABOUT WATER



With a global reputation for excellence, you can take comfort in OASE's unmatched knowledge and expertise.



FEED THE SOIL THAT FEEDS THE PLANTS

PLANT GROWTH IS DEPENDENT ON THE HEALTH AND VITALITY OF THE SOIL SURROUNDING IT.

The process by which natural organic plant foods deliver their nutrients enhances the fertility and structure of the soil. Natural organic plant foods are digested by soil microorganisms, which then release the nutrients in a form available to plants. This process produces humus, a spongy material that improves soil structure. When you improve soil structure, the soil is better able to hold the proper balance of water, air and nutrients until they are required by plants. Plants respond by developing larger root systems. Larger roots support more vigorous top growth and make plants less susceptible to drought. And by stimulating a healthy population of beneficial microorganisms in the soil, plants become more resistant to insects and diseases.

SLOW, STEADY FEEDING, AS THE PLANTS REQUIRE IT.

The nutrients in natural organic plant foods are not in a readily available form for plants to use until they are digested by beneficial microorganisms in the soil. This process is slow and largely dependent upon three factors: the microbial population in the soil, moisture, and soil temperature. A healthy population of microbes in the soil is necessary for the digestion process. Moisture is required to sustain microbial life as well as to keep nutrients flowing into the plants root zone. And soil temperature is critical because as it rises, plants require nutrients more rapidly. Fortunately, microbial activity mimics these requirements and also increases as soil temperature rises, so that plants can be fed the needed nutrients, as they require them.

THE SAFEST CHOICE FOR YOUR PLANTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

Unlike synthetic plant foods, natural organic plant foods have an extremely low salt index, which means there is little to no risk of burning (dehydrating) plants in periods of extreme drought or when over-applying. Natural organic plant foods are generally very resistant to leaching out of the soil, so their nutrients stay in the root zone until the plants need them. And since most natural organic ingredients are byproducts from commercial farms and meat processing plants, the utilization of them for feeding plants is really a system of recycling much like composting.

SOIL AND PLANTS RECEIVE MUCH MORE THAN JUST THE PRIMARY NUTRIENTS.

With natural organic plant foods, they receive organic matter containing millions of beneficial microbes (bacteria, fungi and protozoa) that help improve soil structure for better moisture retention, nutrient retention, aeration and drainage. They receive secondary and trace nutrients as well as vitamins, minerals, and plant growth hormones that promote plant growth and improve resistance to insects, diseases and climate extremes.

Examples of natural organic ingredients include: bone meal, blood meal, kelp meal and greensand. It is for all of the above reasons that we have always used natural organics as the primary source of nutrition in our Tone line of products. It has established the Espoma Tones as the finest, safest, and most reliable plant foods available.

SINCE 1929
Espoma
ORGANIC

When you use the original,
it shows.



Made with 100% Solar Power

For over 85 years Espoma has been the leader in natural organic plant foods. Every ounce of every plant food is manufactured in our solar powered manufacturing facility. And through four generations of family ownership, we have provided millions of gardeners with our time tested and proven products. Pick up a bag and see the results for yourself.

Espoma. A natural in the garden since 1929.

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COLOR CHOICE
FLOWERING SHRUBS

PROBLEM SOLVING PLANTS



"MISS VIOLET"
BUTTERFLY BUSH



"YUKI CHERRY
BLOSSOM" DEUTZIA



"BLUE CHIFFON"
ROSE OF SHARON



very sunny

Generally speaking, 'full sun' is six or more hours of bright sun each day. Most shrubs will readily thrive in those conditions, but very hot and sunny areas that receive eight or more hours of sun a day can cause stress for some plants, particularly in warm climates. The following varieties can tolerate a full day of bright summer sun once they are established (usually after one or two seasons in the landscape).

PETIT BLEU™ bluebeard • LO & BEHOLD® butterfly bush • 'Miss Molly' & 'Miss Violet' butterfly bush
BOBO® panicle hydrangea FIRE LIGHT® panicle hydrangea • LITTLE LIME® panicle hydrangea • LITTLE QUICK
FIRE® panicle hydrangea • BLOOMERANG® lilac COPPERTINA® ninebark CHIFFON™ rose of Sharon



partial shade

Partially shaded areas typically get four to six hours of sun each day. This can be in the form of an uninterrupted, but relatively brief, stretch of direct sun, or it may mean direct sun on and off through the day. It can also include dappled shade, wherein the plants receive filtered light through the day. If you garden in a hot climate, a much wider variety of plants will thrive in part shade, as cooler conditions minimize heat and drought stress.

RUBY ANNIVERSARY™ abelia • LET'S DANCE® RHYTHMIC • BLUE™ bigleaf hydrangea TUFF STUFF RED®
mountain hydrangea GATSBY PINK® oakleaf hydrangea 'CELTIC PRIDE™' Siberian cypress
DOUBLE PLAY® spirea LITTLE HENRY® sweetspire BLUE MUFFIN® viburnum BLONDY® wintercreeper



deep shade

Deep shade is defined as two hours of sun or less each day. Possibly the trickiest of all landscape problems, these areas receive almost no light because of shade cast by large evergreen trees or neighboring buildings. This list of plants that tolerate heavy shade is a good starting point for such areas, but do be aware that plants in these conditions may flower little to not at all, and growth may appear stretched out and leggy as the stems seek out light.

SPRINTER® boxwood FINE LINE® buckthorn KODIAK® bush honeysuckle PROUD BERRY™ coral berry ARCTIC
FIRE® red twig dogwood • PUCKER UP!® dogwood • GEM BOX® inkberry holly • DANDY MAN™ Purple rhododendron
GOLDEN RULE® St. John's- Wort • BLUE MUFFIN® viburnum



deer browsing

Just like humans, deer have favorite foods (roses, arborvitae) and some foods that they simply don't care for. No plant is completely deer-proof, though: deer may sample nearly anything, particularly if other food sources have been exhausted. They may also eat just the flower buds of some plants, like hydrangeas and rose of Sharon. That said, you can count following plants to be low on their list of preferred snacks.

SUNJOY® barberry • SPRINTER® boxwood • LO & BEHOLD® butterfly bush • 'Miss Molly' & 'Miss Violet' butterfly
bush • SHOW OFF® forsythia • GEM BOX® inkberry holly • HAPPY FACE® potentilla
SUGARTINA® 'Crystalina' summersweet

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If you prefer to plant your own Above & Beyond, visit Brock Farms to purchase two pots each of the three varieties shown here plus a 1.5 cu. ft. bag of Proven Winners premium potting soil and a container of plant food. Grow your new container in full sun, then water and feed it regularly.



Option 2: Purchase a Pre-Planted Container to Go

The Above & Beyond recipe is available this season at Brock Farms. Pick up a matching pair for your sunny porch or patio. Be sure to water and feed your new plants regularly for best performance.



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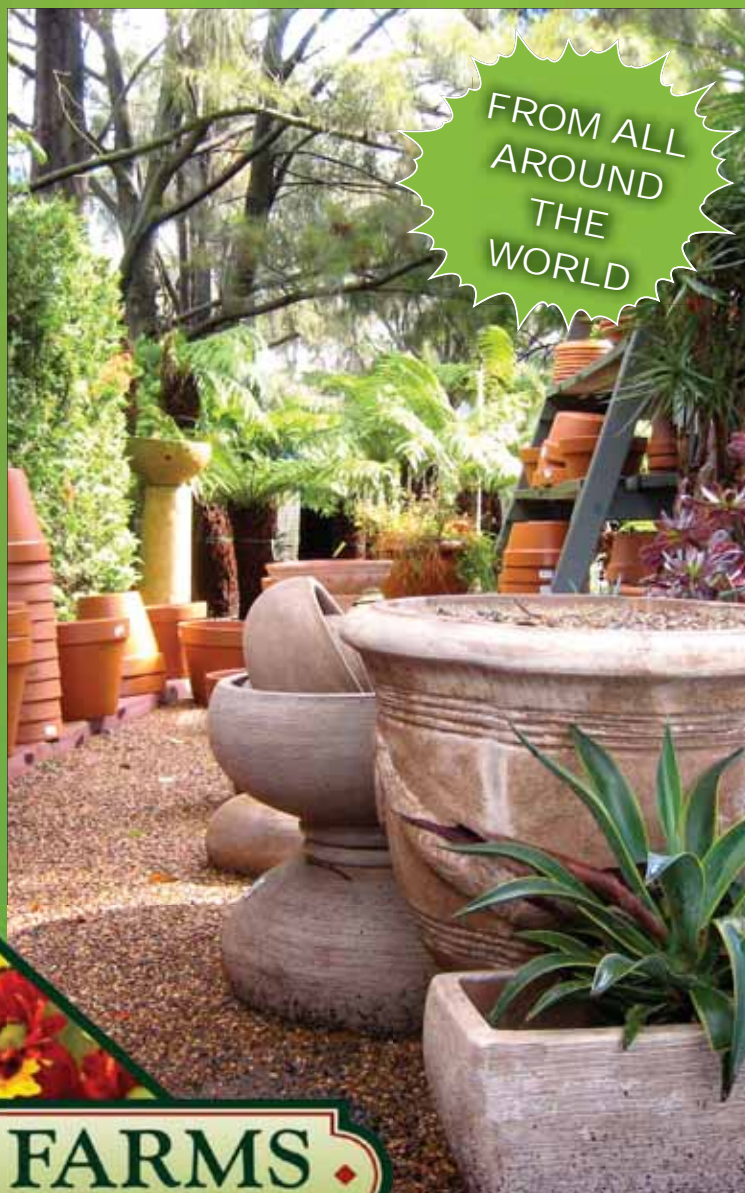
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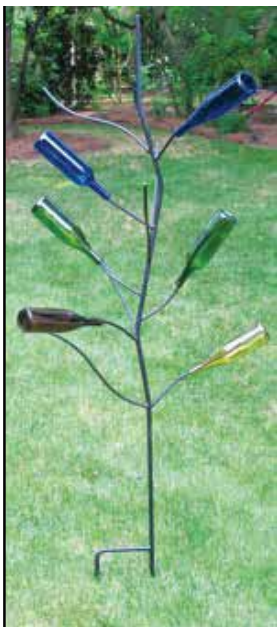


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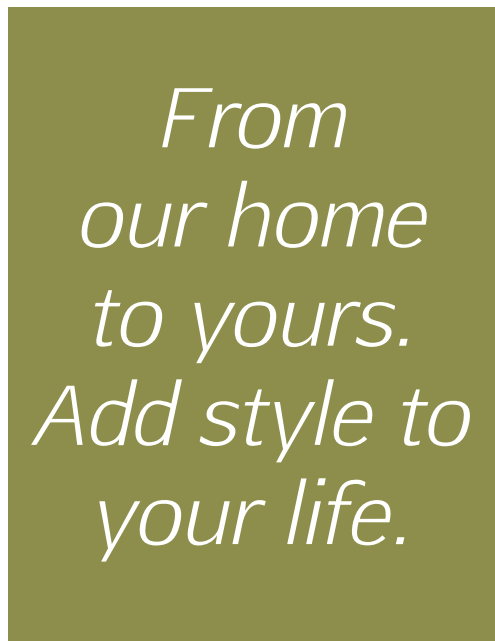
Brock Farms (Freehold) home décor department offers many choices in lamps, paintings, tabletop décor, small and large accent furniture, curtains, runners, table



toppers, silk florals, stained glass panels and more. The beautifully displayed department offers unique treasures. In addition, we are not lacking in the gift department either. From collectibles, rarities, jewelry, scarves, wraps, jewelry boxes, poo-pourri, potpourri, kaleidoscopes, Dammit Dolls, porcelain dolls, vinyl dolls, perfect pets, suncatchers, and night lights, there is something meaningful to offer for every occasion. We even have a large selection of memorial gifts for that friend who has lost someone dear to them. If you don't know what to get, Brock is here to help.

So, if you are looking for that perfect gift or that special piece for your own home décor, let Brock Farms (Freehold) be your go-to place. Whatever the occasion, and whomever the person, you will always find a gift that speaks from the heart. Everyone always finds the right gift and loves the adventure of shopping for it. There is something new and different at every turn, and so much to see.

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The Beautiful **BOUGAINVILLEA**

The best color of all, for summer in New Jersey

The Bougainvillea is a tropical woody vine discovered and named botanically in 1789 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil by a French admiral and explorer whose last name was given to this stunningly beautiful plant. The genus Bougainvillea is native to Peru, Brazil, and southern Argentina, but can now be found in various countries around the globe. Currently, there are over 300 cultivated varieties of Bougainvillea.

Bougainvillea produce sprawling, arching branches, but can be trained to grow in a trellis form, a standard/patio tree, a hanging basket, and used in pots/containers/window flower gardens. Often used in the ground as an impenetrable screening material due to its' thorns which can be very prickly the older the plant lives. Pruning following the bloom cycle will keep the plant compact while encouraging side-branching and forces the plant into a new bloom cycle when accompanied by heavy fertilization as will be discussed further in this article.

Many people in the Northeast are under the impression that Bougainvillea cannot perform well in the region, but they are sadly mistaken. It is true they will not be able to survive below freezing temperatures if left outside in the landscape. However, if brought indoors or into a garage where the temperature stays above freezing the plant, while totally defoliating, will indeed survive when transferred back outdoors in the Spring when the temperatures are consistently above freezing.

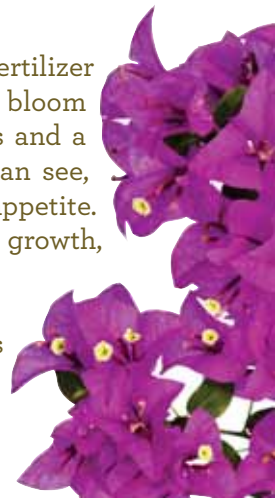
Bougainvillea are generally very easy to care for. Just follow these step-by-step instructions:

1. Plant them in full sun for the absolute best in color production. They are drought tolerant and can easily withstand the hottest and most humid or even the most dry conditions.
2. Once acclimated to the outside they require very little watering; once, maybe, twice a week during the heat of summer.
3. They prefer a wind-protected area due to the delicate nature of their bracts.
NOTE: The bract is for show only and has no fragrance.

4. Fertilization with, at first, a well balanced time released granular fertilizer can then be followed on 3-4 week intervals with a high phosphorus, bloom boosting, water soluble fertilizer mixed with 1-2 tablespoons of epsom salts and a tablespoon of liquid iron specifically to maintain a deep, dark foliage. As you can see, though the plant doesn't require much watering, it does indeed have a very hearty appetite.

NOTE: Fertilizing with a high nitrogen fertilizer simply encourages rampant and steady vegetative growth, but does not contribute to the bloom cycle.

5. The single most important maintenance function **REQUIRED FOR BLOOMING** by this tropical is active and heavy pruning. Lack of pruning will result in far fewer blooms and a plant growing where it wants to grow versus where the homeowner wants it to grow.



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ORGANICS PAST & PRESENT

Over the past decade organic gardening has become “buzz” words within the horticultural industry. The American consumer has come to prefer organic products when buying food or fiber products. Because of the newfound popularity, the term “organic” is now federally regulated. For food products to be labeled organic, they are required to be certified by an independent third party. All producers that use the term “organic” are required to follow specific practices, meaning using substances such as fertilizers and pesticides that meet organic standards.

The organic products of yesterday, such as soaps and essential oils, are moving aside to more pest and disease specific solutions. The technology of today permits us to better target and control specific issues, whether they are insects, diseases or undesirable weeds. Besides the new effectiveness of today's organic controls, we benefit from moving away from old inorganic chemistry of Organophosphates and Carbamates such as Diazinon and Carbaryl to less toxic and less residual treatments.

As the development of organic gardening products have become more effective, certain active ingredients stand out. *Bacillus thuringiensis*, commonly known as B.t., is widely used to kill caterpillar-type insects. The caterpillars eat the treated foliage, then immediately stop feeding. B.t. can be used on fruits, vegetables, and ornamentals and can be used on edible plants up to the day of harvest. Another benefit of B.t. is it has no effects on birds, earthworms or beneficial insects such as honeybees and ladybugs when used as directed.

Spinosad is a natural substance made by a soil bacterium. It has proven to be an effective insect treatment to control caterpillars, gypsy moths, thrips, borers, spider mites, ants and more. It is fast acting and odorless and can be used on outdoor ornamentals, lawns, vegetables and fruit trees. Neem oil, made from the pressing of the Neem seed, is a broad-spectrum insecticide, miticide and fungicide, which can be used on vegetables, fruit trees and ornamentals. Like many other organic insecticides, Neem is not known to be harmful to beneficial insects or birds.

Organic Pyrethrums for quick knockdown of a large list of insects and heat resistant organic oils that can be used during the heat of the summer are other effective organic treatments for specific problems. The newest introduction into this category is the Bio Fungicides based off of newly discovered bacteria's that form symbiotic relationships with their host plants protecting them from damaging pathogens. This allows for not only treatment of existing plant diseases but also prevents future outbreaks.

As the consumer looks for organic products to aid them in successful gardening it is important to look for a couple of things. Many manufacturers make similar products so it is necessary to look at the label and see the active ingredients. Check the percentage of actives with the knowledge that the higher the number the better. You should also look for the OMRI certification. The Organic Materials Review Institute is a non-profit independent organization that verifies the substances used in production meet organic standards.

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SEASONAL CARE FOR POND & WATER FEATURES

Spring Maintenance

Spring is simply the most exciting time of year. As things slowly awaken from their winter hibernation, there are things you can do to get your water feature off to a good start each spring. Does it need a full clean-out this season or does it just need to be tidied up a little? First, if there is a layer of "sludge" at the bottom of the pond and the water is dark in color, it would be a good idea to do a full clean-out. On the other hand, if there is just a small amount of debris that you can capture with a net and the water looks clear, a little tidying up is all that's in order. You should plan on spending a half to a full day to complete a pond clean-out.

The best time to perform a pond clean-out is the early spring, before your water garden completely awakens from its winter dormancy. Here is a list of items you'll need to get started: A clean-out pump with discharge hose, a high-pressure nozzle for your garden hose, or a power washer, garden shears for trimming plants, a child's swimming pool or a similar sized container to hold fish during the clean-out, a net or something similar to place over the fish container to keep them from jumping out, two five-gallon buckets to collect leaves and debris, fish net, Dechlorinator - water conditioner to remove chlorine and chloramines prior to putting fish back in pond, aquatic fertilizer tabs.

Drain the Pond/ Pondless® Waterfall

- Place the clean-out pump in the deepest point of the pond or in the Pondless® Waterfall in order to remove the water.
- Drain the water into the surrounding landscape. Be sure to relocate the pipe two or three times to allow the water to seep into the ground and not flood the yard.
- If you have fish, use some of this pond water to fill up the holding pool/tank. The fish can be removed from the pond using a net once the water is low enough so you can easily catch them.
- Don't keep the fish in the holding pool for more than several hours. If possible, keep them in a shady spot with a net over the top of the pool to prevent them from jumping out.

Don't Overdue the Cleaning

- Rinse the inside of the pond. You can also use a pressure washer to help remove debris from the rocks and gravel or pond liner.
- Don't try to scrub all of the algae away. Some algae on the rocks and/or pond liner will prove beneficial in developing your ecosystem.
- Use the gentle stream from a garden hose to rinse the rocks and gravel or pond liner. Start at the top and work your way down to the bottom. Periodically turn the clean-out pump on to remove the dirty water. You can discontinue the periodic pumping once the water rinsing down to the bottom begins to look clear. Remove the pump and begin filling the pond.

Cleaning the Filters

- Remove any debris from the bottom of the skimmer if you have one.
- Remove the media nets and filter pads from the filters. If you have a drain attached to your waterfall filter, you can open up the valve and rinse the media and filters. Once the filters have been removed rinse them free of accumulated debris and put them back in the filters.
- If you have a pressure type of filter and/or UV Clarifier/Sterilizer, this should be drained and cleaned in the fall and left empty until Spring to avoid freezing in the unit which could cause damage to it. In the Spring, this type of filter should just be put into operation by running the pump operating the system. Make sure to replace filter pads/media and UV bulbs to these types of units each and every Spring.

Putting Your Fish Back Into Their Clean Home

Your pond clean-out is now done and it's time to put your fish back into their home. Once your pond is half full, you can perform these steps to safely place your fish back in the pond.

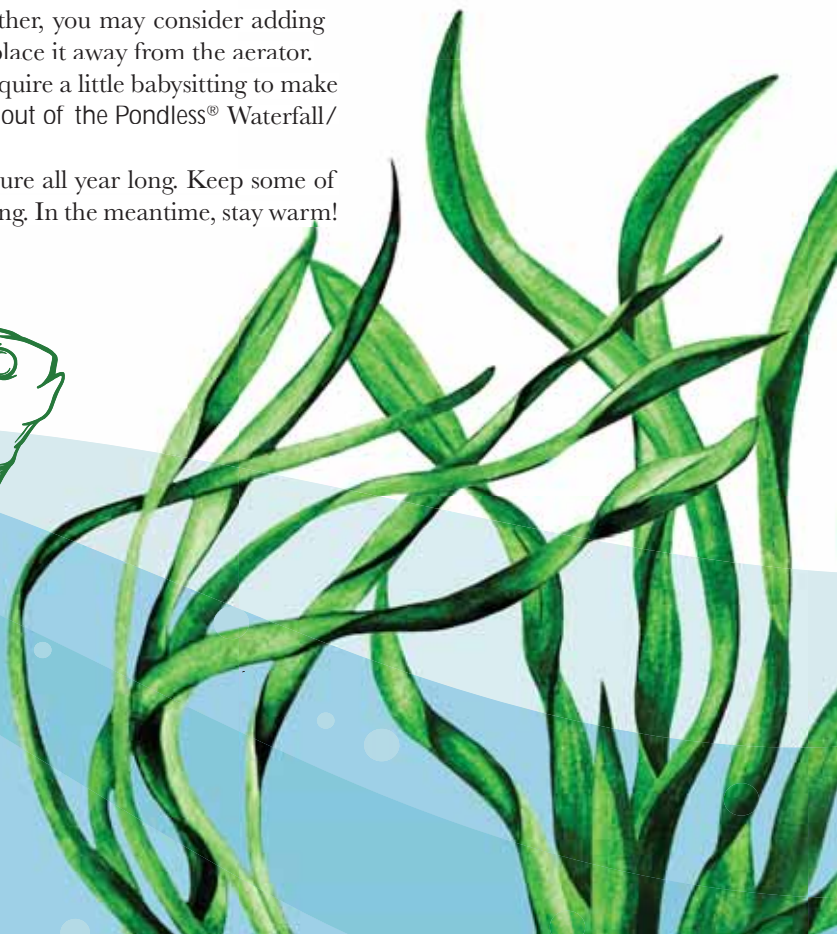
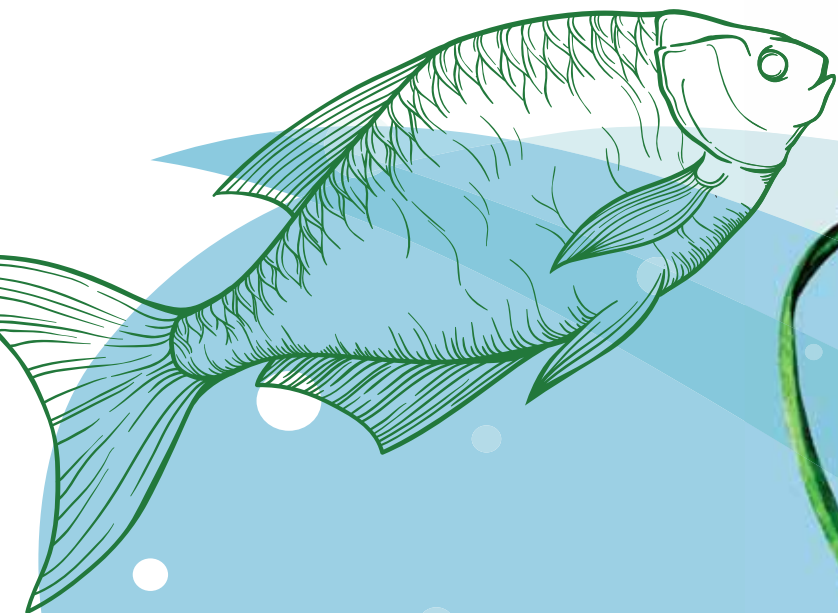
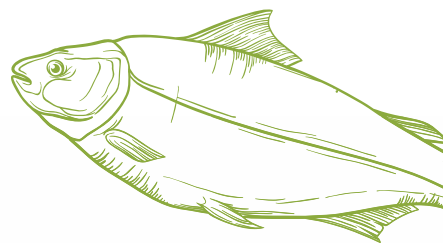
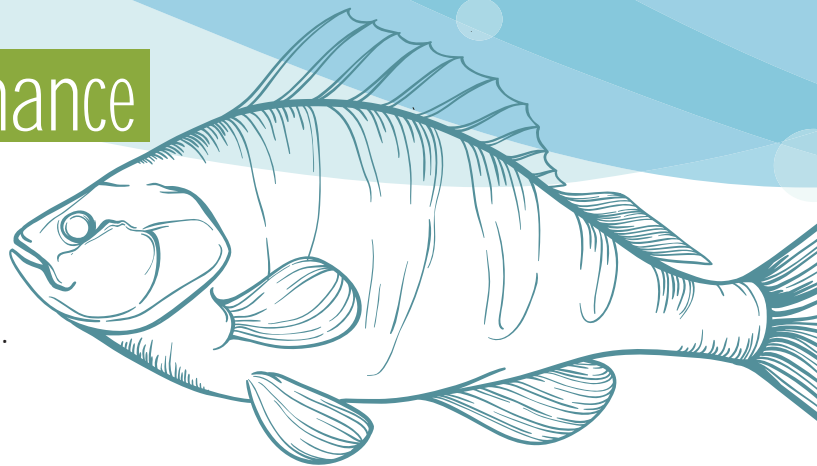
If you have city water, you must add a de-chlorinator to the water making it is safe for fish. Drain half of the water out of the fish holding tank, refill with water from the hose to the original water level in the tank and repeat this process three times. This will ensure that the water in the holding tank is the same as the water in the pond. Once this process is complete, you can safely use a net to catch the fish and put them back into the pond.

Fall and Winter Maintenance

In the fall, water is almost always very clear because of the cooler temperatures and the full, lush plants. Enjoy the good water quality! Here are some things that you can do to keep your water garden looking good.

Note: Several of the steps do not apply to Pondless® Waterfall systems.

- Prune yellow leaves off all of your plants.
- Stop fertilizing when the weather becomes cooler.
- When the water temperature reaches 50- 55 F, stop feeding your fish.
- As leaves fall from nearby trees, remove them from the water feature.
- If you're fortunate enough to be where it stays warm all year round, you're set for the winter.
- In areas where the surface of the pond freezes, you'll need to prepare for winter by deciding whether you want to keep your pond running or shut it down.
- To shut your pond down, first unplug your pump and pull it out of the water. The pump should be stored in a frost-free location, submerged in a bucket of water to keep the seals from drying.
- If your area experiences long periods of extremely cold weather, you may consider adding a floating de-icer and/or aerator. If you use a floating de-icer, place it away from the aerator.
- You can also choose to keep the waterfall running. This will require a little babysitting to make sure an ice dam does not form which could cause water to run out of the Pondless® Waterfall/Pond basin.
- The most important thing is to have fun with your water feature all year long. Keep some of these key maintenance issues in mind, and it will be smooth sailing. In the meantime, stay warm!





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HONEY NECTAR



When I was a kid,

the only person I knew who grew roses my grandmother - my grandmother who meticulously pruned each and every branch that required it in winter - my grandmother who sprayed the kitchen sink on every bug or spot that appeared on her roses in spring - and my grandmother who would cut the flowers off the plant so you could admire the beauty and fragrance (while leaving the sick, defoliated, dilapidated plant in the garden). Back then, roses carried the stigma that they were reserved the garden-elite - the precious few that would take the care and time to produce what few blossoms they could. Thirty years of breeding, however, has brought this amazing group of plants to the masses; and despite what you might think, it's more than just shrub roses!

Though you may not know it, an overwhelming majority of the roses available in this country are bred in two locations: southern California and the southern France. Both have extended summer seasons with long days, warm nights, and quite low humidity. They both also have winters that are forgiving and often short. In other words, an overwhelming majority of the roses available are created in an environment that lends itself to roses growing at near-perfection. If one of these varieties was prone to black-spot or powdery mildew, you'd never know it, because the spores that cause those diseases are not prevalent in either location.


Considering this, it's no surprise that the roses of yesteryear were a mess when they were planted in . . . say . . . anywhere besides southern California and southern France. These varieties are destined for all-but-certain failure in regions with dreaded things like cool nights and high humidity. Nowadays, though, roses are becoming more commonplace in the retail market, and normal people (even someone like me) can plant a rose in their garden here in New Jersey and enjoy months of color, year after year. So what has changed?

A few major events shifted the way roses are bred and selected for introduction. First and foremost was the introduction of The Knock Out® Rose. The selection and marketing of this specific variety opened the rose market to thousands of gardeners who previously would have strayed away from growing roses in their landscape; not to mention, this rose was bred in Wisconsin . . . a far cry from the warm/dry days of sunny California. The other major change came in the way that roses were tested. Many growers, including us, began collecting the roses throughout the country to see what would perform best.

Here at Centerton, we began with more than 100 varieties that rose-producers told us were their best performers. After less than a year, less than 30 remained. At the end of year-two, that number was cut to less than twenty . . . but you gotta start somewhere. That testing program grew into what is now our own brand of roses selected specifically for performance in the mid-Atlantic and New England regions: Hasslefree® Roses. Now, more than two decades later, the new roses we introduce to the market are miles beyond those original Hasslefree® selections which only four or five remain in our line).

There are countless new roses that I could introduce to you here, but three particular varieties come to mind that are great choices for New Jersey gardens (in no particular order): 'Canyon Road' has redefined what we expect from floribunda roses. It produces a multitude of 2-3" brick-red fully-double flowers. It has super-clean disease-resistant foliage. But the best aspect of this amazing variety is its staying power. We had flowers in this plant from June through October





here at our farm. With little more than an occasional trim, this plant bloomed with intense beauty for months on end! Being quite similar in size and habit to a typical shrub rose, 'Canyon Road' makes a great choice for gardeners who are brand new to roses and want something more exciting than your typical shrub rose.

For a twist on grandiflora roses, 'Honey Nectar' comes from a new bloodline of this type bred by Bill Radler, the rose-hybridization mastermind that brought us The Knock Out® family of roses. It blooms in clusters of 3" salmon/coral flowers that mature to a soft apricot. Put that on top of its super-clean dark-green disease resistant foliage, and you have a fantastic package for easy color. And being bred in Wisconsin, it's naturally tough enough to survive even the harshest New Jersey winters.

'Gold Struck' was the standout selection from our 2016 trials. Boasting massive 4-5" double blossoms of soft gold with hints of pink and orange, this stunner is the perfect to your landscape. It's a grandiflora type rose, which means they (typically) have the upright structure and larger flowers of classic Hybrid Tea roses, but they bloom in clusters, rather than one flower per stem. Reaching around 5' tall and having 3-4 buds per branch, 'Gold Struck' will be a pillar of color in your yard by spring's end. This is the one that will make your neighbors jealous; be sure to put them where they can be admired by everyone!

There are tons of great roses destined for success in your garden . . . the problem is figuring out which ones to buy. These three are a great place to start, but if you yearn for more, visit me online at www.CenteronNursery.com and find our entire listing of Hasslefree® Roses. Or better yet, stop by Brock Farms and see these beauties in person. The perfect rose for you is out there - it's simply waiting for you to give it a chance!

Bob Blew is part of the third generation of the Blew Family to own and operate Centeron Nursery, Inc. in Bridgeton, New Jersey. He has spent time working on the family's farm since the age of seven. In the meantime, he received a degree from Penn State University and completed the New Jersey Agricultural Leadership program. He now spends most days breeding daylilies or flying around the world finding new and interesting plants and edibles.



Replacing Garden Impatiens with SunPatiens®

About 4 years ago, gardeners all over the East Coast, from Florida to Massachusetts, watched their beautiful garden Impatiens (Walleriana) turn yellow and drop all their bottom leaves and eventually collapsed into a pile of mush. This was the start of disease that many of us had not heard about. IDM which stands for Impatiens Downy Mildew.

Although, this disease was new to many of us, it was not new to the USA. This disease has been around for hundreds of years but seems to manifest itself at unscheduled times and under the right conditions. Prior to 2012, Impatiens was the # 1 bedding plant in the Northeast. Everywhere you looked beautiful beds of colorful Impatiens brightened up many homes and businesses. IDM was around, but few of us were affected by it. Then things changed. IDM struck and it struck hard. In many areas, entire beds of Impatiens collapsed overnight. Sadly, four years later, this disease is still affecting Impatiens plants because the spores of the IDM can winter over and reside in the soil for many years and even decades.

Should we give up on Impatiens? Not necessarily. If you grow Impatiens in planters or hanging baskets there is a good chance your Impatiens will last through most of the summer. But Impatiens planted in the ground is probably going to get IDM again. (See pictures) Courtesy of Michigan State University.

The active spores look like the next picture and are on the underside of the leaf. I know you love your Impatiens and so you are probably asking the question: What can I use in place of Impatiens? SunPatiens!

This plant was bred in Japan over 10 years ago, and showed great promise for the home gardener. Unfortunately, it was not well received by the industry or homeowners until IDM struck. This plant is not produced from seed but from a cutting. It has tremendous vigor and can grow to a height of 3 ft. or more. In addition to being a good substitute for Impatiens, it can also be grown in the full sun. This gives the plant much more versatility than Walleriana Impatiens, which needed shade to perform well. Now here is the best news; it is not affected by IDM. Yes, SunPatiens can be grown in the beds previously planted with Impatiens and will not get IDM.

The range of colors offered by SunPatiens is not as extensive as Impatiens, but the colors that are offered are pure and rich. Evoking the same kind of warmth and joy that Walleriana Impatiens brought to your home décor. So this spring, as you shop Brock Farms ask for SunPatiens, you will not be disappointed.



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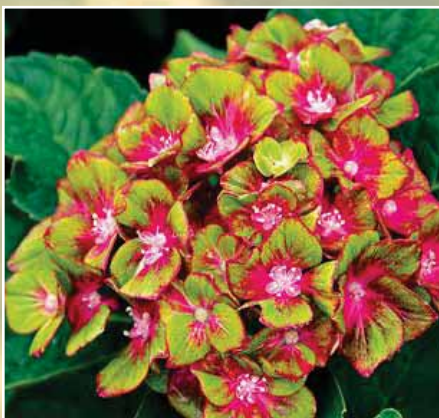
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ORNAMENTAL & FLOWERING TREES

The use of flowering trees in the landscape has been utilized throughout history. More than 4,000 years ago, the Egyptians wrote about trees being transplanted with a ball of soil around their roots. In Greece, Theophrastus (370-285 BC) and Pliny (AD 23-79) gave instructions for tree planting and care. By the early 1700s, trees were being planted with some frequency in the cities and estates of Europe. Today ornamental trees are an important part of human life.

Ornamental trees are usually the first sign representing the awakening of spring; which is nature's way of celebrating color in its landscapes. The array of colors triggers our emotional outlook when we surrender to nature's splendor. Our mental, social and family interactions are heightened when we spend time in a more pleasant and naturalistic surroundings.

With so many amazing natural options, how do you pick? The following are some examples to guide you in choosing the perfect flowering tree for your property.



An Okame Cherry (*Prunus X okame*) is a cross between a Fuji Cherry (*Prunus incisa*) and a Taiwan Cherry (*Prunus campanulata*). This hybrid grows quickly when young and forms a 15 to 20 feet tall and 20 feet wide upright, oval silhouette. The pink with reddish flower stalks bloom in spring (March-April). It has an upright growth habit and finely textured dark green leaves which turn brilliant orange/red in autumn. The bark is a reddish brown and is ringed with grayish lenticels. These small corky spots on its young bark are quite handsome in winter.



Akebono Cherry (*Prunus X Yedoensis* 'Akebono') has a soft pink, single flower, fading to white as the blooming period progresses. This ornamental tree is grown primarily for its showy blooms but maintains interest all year boasting dense, dark green foliage that changes to yellowish bronze-orange in autumn. It reaches heights of 25 to 35 feet. Its slightly weeping branches spread up to 40 feet. Making it perfect to be used along walkways, near patios and elsewhere in yards for the light shade it offers.



Cherokee Chief Dogwood (*Cornus Florida* 'Cherokee Chief') is a small deciduous tree that typically grows 15-30' tall with a low-branching, pyramidal but somewhat flat-topped habit. It is arguably the most stunning of the Native American flowering trees with its rich ruby-red and white tipped, spring blooming flowers. Its new growth features a reddish shade on its textured bark helping to make this one of the most well liked dogwoods. Dark green, oval leaves turn an attractive shade of red in the fall. Used primarily in a small grouping on residential property around homes, near patios or in lawns. Also effective in woodland, bird or native plant gardens. For the reason of their bright red fruits are loved by birds and deer.



Cherokee Princess Dogwood (*Cornus Florida* 'Cherokee Princess') has numerous buds that expand to a large, showy cluster of white, bracted mid-spring flowers. Burgundy foliage emerges in spring turning a gorgeous forest green into summer. The pointy leaves turn an outstanding brick red in the fall. The warty gray bark adds an appealing aspect to any landscape. This Flowering Dogwood is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree, which grows 20-25 ft height and 15-20 ft width. Its resistance to disease makes this the ultimate choice for your landscape bed.



Southern Magnolia's also known as Evergreen Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) are densely pyramidal, low branching, stately evergreen tree; generally distinctly columnar-pyramidal in growth habit. The leaves boast a lustrous and glossy dark green above, lighter green below often ferruginous (rusty), pubescent (fuzzy) beneath. The large (8" to 12" in diameter when fully open) flower blooms in late May into June. This creamy white flower is infused with a heavenly lemon citrus scent (better than the best perfume). A pinecone shaped fruit, usually ripe-in September – November. When splitting open they expose a beautiful red seed, most often used in Christmas decoration.

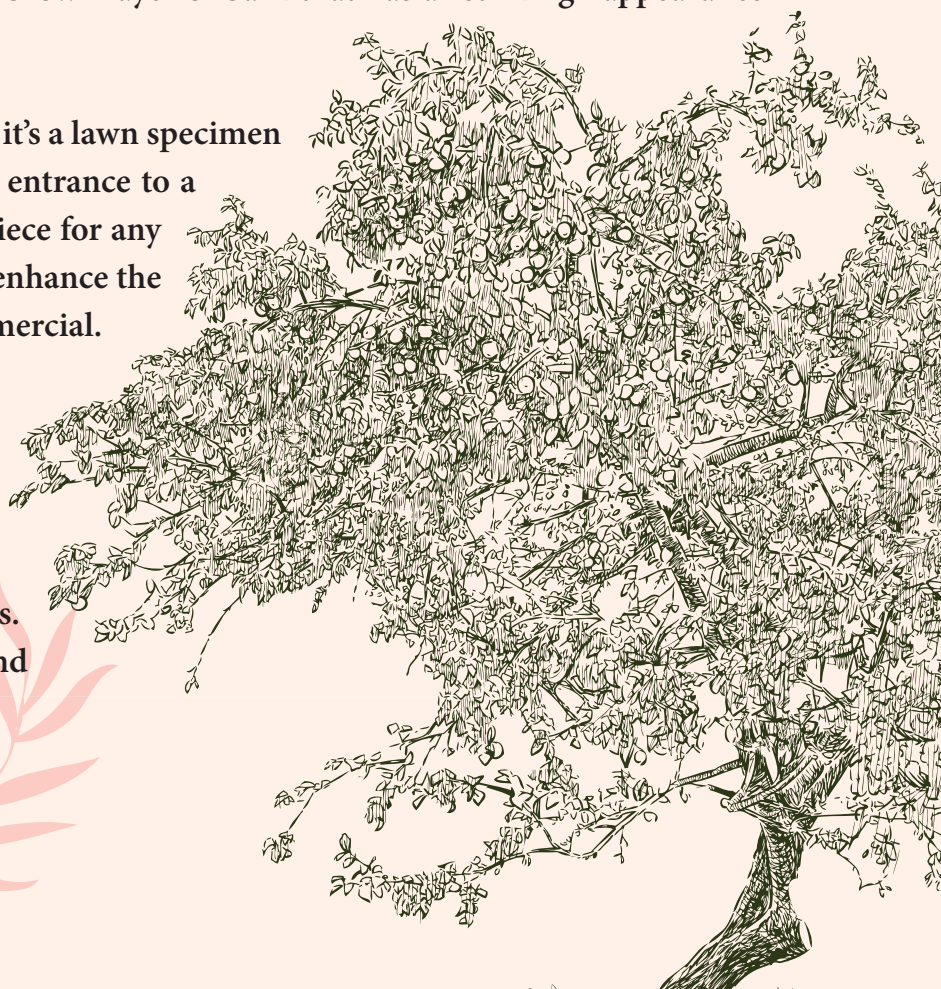


Seven Sons Flower also known as Crape Myrtle of the North and Autumn Lilac (*Heptacodium miconioides*) has been a well-kept secret over the last century. This tree is relatively new to the horticulture industry but has existed for over 100 years. It was discovered in China back in 1907 but was only introduced to the United States in the 1980's by the Arnold Arboretum. This member of the honey suckle family, *Heptacodium miconioides* has a fountain shape. And can be grown as a large multi trunk shrub or a small tree, depending on how

Seven Sons Flower will enhance any landscape due to the following ornamental features. It is one of a few trees that bloom in the FALL! Beginning in late August to early September. It explodes with small, magnificent, fragrant, creamy white flowers and produced in clusters of seven (hence the name Seven Sons Flower). Butterflies and hummingbirds are attracted to its sweet nectar. The flower persists into September then as they fall off the next show begins only with a more exquisite display. The sepals (flower heads) turn a bright reddish pink color lasting late into the fall. Lastly, another great feature of *Heptacodium* is its winter interest. Long after the flowers have faded and the sepals are spent the tree reveals its handsome bark. The tan outer bark exfoliates and uncovers a darker brown layer of bark that has a striking appearance all winter long.

The proper placement of these trees whether it's a lawn specimen or an allée of trees to line up a driveway or entrance to a large complex makes them a perfect show piece for any landscape. Ornamental flowering trees will enhance the aesthetics of any project, residential or commercial.

In conclusion, we at Brock Farms are excited going into a new spring season. We are looking forward to assisting you select the best plants possible to achieve peace and harmony in your outdoor living environments. Thank you for your continued patronage and support.



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