

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

- Sign up for our Spring Workshops
- Open: 8-6 Mon. - Sat.
1-5 Sundays



April 19th E-NEWS

What an exciting time of year!! In the Garden Center business there are so many new items arriving that it makes working so much fun. Take a look at these gorgeous terrarium containers that just came in.



Then take a look at this video to see how easy they are to make and how good they look when done. Did you know they're easy care, too??

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IhNAadotgLE>

Another type of container entirely, but another product we've just gotten in are the **Smart Pots**. Smart Pot technology has been used in the nursery industry for years because of the particular advantages it provides in growing superior plants. The soft-sided fabric containers have the rigidity to hold their shape but, unlike plastic containers, allow aeration and help insulate the roots from extremes in temperature. Likewise, over-watering is never a problem as the porous fabric not only allows heat to dissipate, it

allows excess water to evaporate. Another benefit of the Smart Pot is root-pruning. When the roots of the plant reach the side of the pot, the growing tip stops growing but the root develops many fine side shoots. As a result, roots don't circle round the inside of the pot and girdling never becomes a problem. We have Smart Pots available in several sizes, a great alternative to plastic, ceramic, and clay pots and especially useful as a low-cost alternative to raised beds.



To learn more about Smart Pots check out their website. <http://www.smartpots.com/>

While many people are reluctant to plant flowers and veggies right now (at least until we know there won't be any more frosts) everyone is anxious to get their lawns off to a good start. A new product for us this year is Gaia Green's **TURF ESSENTIALS**. The Gaia Green products, made in Grand Forks, are excellent organic soil fertilizers and amendments. We've used them for several years and the results when using any/all of them are truly impressive! **Turf Essentials** is an organic lawn care product with a Nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium (NPK) formulation of



5-2-2. Its natural slow-release design provides a healthy, vibrant lawn that is safe for kids, pets and the environment. Each 8.5 kg bag contains compost, feather meal, mined potassium sulphate, and glacial rock dust and covers about 250 square meters.

Once again this year, we're encouraging everyone to sign up for our Very Important Plant Person (**VIP**) cards. Every time you make a purchase of **NON-SALE** items in our market, garden center or gift shop, the purchase total (minus taxes, of course) is marked on your card. When you fill the card with ten purchases, we will give you a credit of 10% of the total of those purchases to use toward whatever you would like to purchase in our store. It can't be redeemed for cash but it does have great value!! And just in case you're wondering, that card you didn't fill up last year (or even the year before) is still valid. Unlike many loyalty programs elsewhere, there is no cost to sign up for our **VIP CARD**.

For those of you who have landscape projects on the go, you'll be interested to know that discounts apply depending on how many of a particular item you purchase. For example, if you purchase Steer Manure, our regular price is 2.69 a bag (which is already a great deal when compared with what's available elsewhere) but when you purchase 10 or more, the price is only 2.00 per bag. We've also priced many of our trees and shrubs this way. The Blue Rug junipers (*Juniperus horizontalis* 'Wiltonii'), for example, are priced at 7.99 ea. in 1 gallon containers but when you purchase 5 or more, the price goes down to 6.80 ea. So, check us out when you have a large planting project. Of course, when items have been discounted, *they can't be counted on our VIP card*.

Our staff has the experience and the knowledge to give you advice on plants and everything else to do with gardening. Not sure how to proceed with your landscape? Get out your cam-

era, takes some pics of the area in question, and bring them in to show our staff to get ideas on how to proceed and what to plant.

GARDEN TIPS: What to do about Cutworms, Root Maggots, and Weevil larvae now that Diazinon is history



Cut worm larva



Damage caused by root maggots

Most of the products that were used in the past for control of the pests shown above are no longer available to home gardeners. But there is something you can do about them. *Beneficial nematodes* can be used to 'seek and destroy' a wide variety of larval pests. **ATTACK PACK** (*Steinernema carpocapsae*) is suitable for vegetable and flower gardens. Imagine waking up and **NOT** finding your freshly sprouted beans cut by the cutworm?! This wide spectrum nematode will fight against fleas, crane-fly, weevils, asparagus beetle, root worms, cutworm and sod webworm. Application time is April- July and covers 500 square feet. **Unit Size: 6 million Cost: \$40.00**

Forecast says it could freeze on Monday and Tuesday so be sure to cover any tender plants.

Harriet

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