

# IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK:

- **New Hours:** Starting April 22- Weekdays 8-6  
Sundays, 1-5pm
- **Feature this week:** New Plants & Products
- **Garden Tip:** Vole Defeating Strategies

## April 20th E-NEWS

Drrrrrrrum rrrrrrooll, please!



We're excited to announce that we've

**facebook**

set up our very own business page and intend to use it to send out tidbits of gardening advice and quick bits of info on special sales and promotions. **'Like'** us to get our posts like the link we posted a couple of days ago to get the lowdown on how to compost.

[www.facebook.com/HannaOrchardsFarmMarketGardenCentre](http://www.facebook.com/HannaOrchardsFarmMarketGardenCentre)

The POS system that we put into place this past year (that's *supposed* to make things easier) is currently taking more of my time than anticipated and it's hard to find the time to put together these weekly newsletters. So I'll send them out alternate weeks rather than every week and use FACEBOOK to make quick posts as time allows.

This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year we've operated our Garden Centre. Our staff is terrific: they love gardening and it shows! And they love sharing their knowledge and experience with our customers! Doing a rough calculation, I figure we (7 outdoor staff) have about 200 years of garden experience between us!

Spring is so exciting in a Garden Centre: so many new plants and so much new stock! When you're a plant junkie like me, it's WAY better than Christmas! Here are a few of the new items we have in store to whet your appetite:



We just got in our first shipment of Confetti Gardens; The RED FOX Company puts 2 - 3 plants together in one gallon pots to create spectacular combinations that you can then pot on into your own planters or window boxes. **Super easy and practically goof proof, too!**

These are three of the Confetti Garden combos we have in stock. 1 gallon pot @ \$6.99 ea.



Pismo Beach



Hot Pink Jazz



Bumblebee

<http://www.confetti-garden.com/confetti3.html>

In the weeks to come I'll feature other new plants and 'oldies but goodies' that you might not be familiar with.

Of course each year brings a new crop of garden-related products. One that James and I thought was ingenious when we saw it at a trade show last fall is the **'Rail Rocket'** and we now have it in stock. It's so simple you'll wonder why no-one else thought of it.



- **No Tools, clamps, or screws required- Just rock it to lock it**
- **Versatile-Fits all standard deck pickets**
- **Seasonal- Our Rock it to lock it philosophy makes it easy to change your deckscape with the season**
- **Durable- Made from powder coated steel to withstand the elements**

You have to watch this video on their website to see for yourself how easy these brackets are to use. Seeing is believing!

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAHpEaHa18&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KAHpEaHa18&feature=player_embedded)

### **GARDEN TIP: VOLE DEFEATING STRATEGIES**

The vole (field mouse) population explosion seems to be waning here but judging by the number of people who have been asking how to get rid of them, they seem to be doing very well elsewhere. Snap traps work well but you need a lot of traps and you need to be sneaky about how you set them up. Lull them into thinking the traps aren't dangerous by putting them out, loaded with peanut butter, but don't 'set' them. Then after a few days, 'set' the traps and you'll be amazed at how many you catch!

If trapping isn't for you, try baiting them with Vitamin D 'balls' which are toxic to voles but not to us or to our pets. Crush several dry tablets or empty gel caps into  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup of peanut butter and mix well. Refrigerate for an hour to allow the mixture to harden then use a teaspoon (or gloved hands) to form it into small balls. These balls can be placed in their holes or in protected (out of the rain) locations where the voles run, such as the perimeter of the house.

If you have a cat, I have a very practical use for the soiled kitty litter. Scoop it into the vole holes. That will send them packing~ even if it's only next door.

Voles can do so much damage and I empathize with anyone whose plants have been damaged this past winter. Stripped bark near soil level and nibbled roots are evidence that you have voles.

It's time to plant fruit trees and we have all of our potted fruit trees (reg. 49.99-59.99) on sale for \$39.99 until next Friday, April 27, 2012. We also have a large selection of bare-root fruit trees ranging in price from 14.99 to 29.99, depending on size and variety.

We have a great selection of strawberry plants right now, too. Whether you want them bare-root (packages of 10 roots, 7 varieties) or as started plants (Everbearing and Tristar), now is the time to plant them.

Our greenhouse is filling up quickly with beautiful flowering plants and vegetables and the nursery is filled to the brim with so many trees, shrubs and perennials we don't know where to put them all!

Not to be outdone, our Apple Lane Gift Shop has so many new items there isn't room here to list them all. You'll just have to come in to see for yourself.

### **FRUIT THIS WEEK:**

<b><u>APPLES:</u></b>	Pink Lady 99¢/lb.
	Ambrosia 89¢/lb.
	Gala 69¢/lb.
	Gold Del. 59¢/lb.
	Spartans 59¢/lb.
<b><u>PEARS:</u></b>	Anjou 59¢/lb.

Happy gardening,

*Harriet*

### **HANNA ORCHARDS MARKET & GARDEN CENTRE**

3181-11<sup>TH</sup> Ave. NE., Salmon Arm, BC

**New Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8am-6:00pm**

**Sunday afternoon 1-5pm**

**(250) 832 4574**

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