

## Glen Echo's Growing News

Hello there fellow garden enthusiasts. We are thrilled to be posting this, our first newsletter on our website, sharing with you some of the newest plant introductions and hot new trends in garden décor.

As the sun gets stronger & the days get longer we long to be back in the garden discovering anew the delights that await us. If you're planning a new garden or have some spaces waiting for just that right plant read on & discover some of the newer plants on the market.

### Shrubs

Some of the most exciting varieties in our opinion include:

**Coppertina Ninebark**, (*Physocarpus opulifolius* 'Mindia'). This hardy native shrub's foliage is a beautiful coppery-orange which deepens to a rich red as the season progresses. Grows 6-8', zone 3.

**Black Lace Elder** (*Sambucus nigra* 'Blacklace'). Stunning black finely cut foliage lends itself to a lacy Japanese Maple look but is cold hardy. Deep pink flower buds open to creamy pink flowers in early summer followed by berries in the fall. Grows 6-8', zone 4.

**Tiger Eye Cutleaf Sumac** (*Rhus typhina* 'Bailtiger'). While not as new, this golden cut leaf variety is worth a mention. Leaves emerge pale green turning golden yellow with a stunning display of fall color that ranges from orange to scarlet red & is non invasive. Grows 6', zone 4.

**There are many new developments in the family of Hydrangeas. Some of these include:**

**Endless Summer Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Bailmer'). This hydrangea was introduced a couple of years ago and blooms all season long. Large mop head blooms are either blue or pink depending on soil acidity. Grows 4', zone 4.

**Blushing Bride Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea macrophylla* 'Blushing Bride'). Stunning large pure white blooms mature to a blush pink or blue depending on soil acidity. Grows 4', zone 4.

**Little Lamb Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Little Lamb'). Compact, heavy flowering with blooms of pure white. Starts flowering in mid summer. Grows 6-8', zone 4.

**Limelight Hydrangea** (*Hydrangea paniculata* 'Limelight'). A real beauty with vibrant chartreuse blooms deepening to pink, burgundy & white in autumn. Grows 6', zone 4.

## **Roses**

In the roses look out for new Easy Elegance Roses. These unique roses most of which are grown on their own root offer hardiness, disease resistance and a wide array of colors. Some of these varieties include:

**My Hero** – Medium red double blooms, ever blooming. Shrub variety, grows 3'.  
Zone 5-9.

**Tahitian Moon** – Soft yellow double blooms. Shrub/Climber variety, grows 2-6'.  
Zone 4-9.

**Funny Face** – Pink blend semi double blooms all summer long. Shrub variety, grows 3'.  
Zone 4-9.

**Hot Wonder** – Hot pink fluorescent blooms all season long. Hardy shrub variety, grows 3'.  
Zone 4-9.

**Sierra Sleye** – Fiery orange double blooms, reblooming throughout the season.  
Shrub/Climber variety, grows 2-5'. Zone 4-9.

**Sunrise Sunset** – Semi double fusia pink blooms changing to apricot to yellow.  
Everblooming shrub variety, grows 2-3'. Zone 4-9.

**Mystic Fairy** – Rich red with pink tones, double blooms all summer long. Shrub variety,  
grows 3'. Zone 4-9.

**Macy's Pride** – Lemon yellow buds open to creamy white blooms. Shrub variety, grows 5'.  
Zone 4-7.

**Orange Impressionist** – Vibrant orange blooms. Everblooming shrub variety, grows 3'.  
Zone 4-9.

**Salmon Impressionist** – Double salmon coloured flowers blooms all summer long.  
Hybrid tea-like shrub, grows 3'. Zone 4-9.

## **Perennials**

There are so many new perennials it's hard to keep up! Here is a few worth looking for. Most of them are on Heritage Perennials 2006 top ten list.

**New Millennium Delphinium** (Delphinium 'New Millennium'). These tall stately strains come in a variety of shades of white, blue, pink and purple. 'Pagon Purples' is stunning with shades of deep blues, purples thru mauve. Zone 3.

**Marmalade Coral Bells** (Heuchera 'Marmalade'). A huge improvement over the 'Amber Waves' variety introduced a few years ago. A beautiful tone of Amber to peachy-bronze, this sturdy plant prefers some afternoon shade. Zone 4.

**Black Leaved Ligularia** (*Ligularia dentata* ‘Britt-Marie Crawford’). Large rounded leaves of rich maroon-purple leaves bearing tall stem of golden yellow daisy-like flowering. This bold specimen prefers rich soil with plenty of moisture. Zone 3.

**There are too many newer coneflowers to list but some of the best ones already on the market are:**

**Razzmatazz Purple Coneflower** (*Echinacea purpurea* ‘Razzmatazz’). Large double flowering magenta – pink blooms all summer long. Zone 3.

**Big Sky Sunset** (*Echinacea Big Sky* ‘Sunset’). Strong bushy plants with large blooms of orange-red beginning mid summer. Rose scented adds to the appeal. Zone 4.

Look forward to Big Sky ‘Twilight’ and Pixie Meadowbrite, coming later this year.

**Firewitch Pinks** (*Dianthus* ‘Firewitch’). While not new this sun loving perennial has been chosen as perennial plant of the year for 2006 by the *Perennial Plant Association*. This low growing perennial with evergreen leaves of blue-grey has single magenta – pink blooms which are fragrant. Zone 3.

Bamboo select is an introduction of some of the best cold hardy bamboos, some are spreading ground covers, some are clumping non invasive varieties but all of them are fast growing. Bamboo’s incredible ability to recycle carbon dioxide cleans the air around us providing 35% more oxygen than a similar stand of trees. Many of them are hardy to zone 5 and some even to zone 4. There are several to choose from. Come & pick up a brochure or view their website [www.bambooselect.us](http://www.bambooselect.us).

**Green Panda** (*Fargesia rufa*). This clumping non invasive variety makes a great dense hedge which prefers rich organic soil in sun or bright shade & is very fast growing. Grows 6-8’, zone 5.

**Green View Spreading Bamboo** (*Sasa tsuboiana*). Large hanging leaves give this variety a tropical look & makes a good ground cover. Does best in part to full shade reaching 3’ tall & 4-6’ wide, zone 4.

In our gift shop you will find many exciting new lines, providing great gift ideas for almost everyone.

Our extremely popular line of decorative stained glass panels has been expanded to include more vases & fireplace screens.

Solar lighting includes not just pathway lights but globes, butterflies & dragonflies that hold light all night long.

We have a wonderful new line of fountains that look & feel like stone but is actually glass fibre reinforced concrete which yield superior strength.

Mailbox covers, outdoor oil lamps, wasp catchers, tuned wind chimes, fun pillows, glassware, decorative travel mugs & pots of course, everything you could image (we hope) to enhance your outdoor living.

We hope that you have enjoyed or learned from this our first but not last newsletter. Please contact us for inquiries at [gardencentre@glenecho.com](mailto:gardencentre@glenecho.com) or [valerie@glenecho.com](mailto:valerie@glenecho.com)

**Spring Tips:**

- ? Apply dormant oil before buds break on fruit trees, hardy ornamentals & roses.
- ? Fertilize your lawn with crabgrass preventer in early spring.
- ? Cut back grasses & late blooming flowering shrubs.
- ? Over seed your lawn once the risk of frost has past.
- ? Cut back roses after mid April.