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DELL J. SADLER III, INC.

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Landscaping Newsletter and Garden Tips

May, 2012 Volume 98

Can you believe it's May already?

Be sure to visit us on May 12th at Eastern Shore Nurseries on Dover Road in Easton. We'll have freebies, a radio station on site, give-aways and big discounts on plant material. It's the day before Mother's Day, so be sure to come out and see us!

May Garden Tips

* A fun article suggests that it's a good idea to eat your dandelions. They contain more Vitamin A than carrots and twice as much as spinach. So, you may want to try them...unless you're going to make dandelion wine.

* We always make this suggestion around this time of year. Purchase annuals without blooms. You'll be able to enjoy the flowers much longer this way. Also, it's a good idea to choose shorter, bushier plants. Larger plants may have a tangled root system and they won't transplant as well.

* It's tomato time! Almost. We resisted planting tomatoes during that nice warm weather in April. The weather can change and plants may be ruined overnight. However, we'll put our

A Personal Message

April seemed to hurtle by at the speed of light. I can't believe it's May already.

During April, I spent a wonderful week with my 13 year old nephew, Louie. He visited me and Melissa during his spring break.

He was a breathe of fresh air for us. Melissa and I never had children, so the nieces and nephew are like our grandchildren.

Louie and I had so much fun...even sneaking in an afternoon of perch fishing. He helped me clean and cook the fish too. All in all, it was a perfect day for us. We can't wait for him and his younger sister to visit us at the beach again this summer.

You read about the Open House at Eastern Shore Nurseries in the Personal Message. We're very excited about this second annual event.

Our staff will set up tables at the Nursery around 9:00 and we'll be there throughout the day. Eastern Shore Nurseries is located at 30104 Dover Road in Easton.

We'll be giving away free hot dogs and free bottled water. The Heat radio station (106.3 FM) will be doing a live remote broadcast with all their usual fun give-aways. Eastern Shore Nurseries always throws in a few goodies too. And, best of all, there will be deep discounts on plant material...just in time for Mother's Day.

Please plan on stopping by for a fun visit. Beautiful plants and plenty of space to let the kids roam. We hope to see you there.

into the gardens in the very near future. How can you resist a homegrown Eastern Shore tomato?

* There are numerous tricks to planting tomatoes. Everyone has their own tips. One of the best sources we've ever seen is a YouTube video from Annie Rockwell of Parlow Mill Farm. [Take a look at the years of experience Annie Rockwell gives us in her video.](#) She's a real gem and a tomato guru!

* Don't be shy about snapping a picture with your cell phone of an interesting garden. You can create a gardening folder full of photographs for inspiration.

* Plant gladiola bulbs this month. Those tall spiky flowers create a lot of vertical interest.

* The Better Homes and Gardens website tells us that a hot new trend for 2012 gardens is the dwarf variety of shrubbery. Growers have developed dwarf hydrangea, weigelas and even a butterfly bush, called the Flutterby Petite Series. Another trend that we liked is called Columnar Apples. These apple trees grow vertically. They're about 8-10 feet tall and only about two feet wide. Apparently, varieties in the Urban Columnar Apple series produce as many apples as a regular tree. Check your local nursery for available stock.



Here's a photograph of our set-up at Eastern Shore Nurseries in 2011.

We gave away a Weeping Cherry Tree to a very lucky winner that day.

Take a Look at Our Landscaping

We completed a beautiful design and installation for a client recently. We're claiming bragging rights, so take a look at our newest project.



Here's a beautiful flagstone patio, surrounded by border plantings. They will mature into a natural privacy fence.

* We strongly recommend that you cut your lawn between 2 1/2 and 3 inches. Taller grass means a deeper root system and this makes for a healthier lawn. Shorter grass means shallow roots that are more susceptible to disease and insect problems.

* Love hummingbirds? So do we! Here are characteristics of plants they enjoy:

- Trumpet shaped
- Long necked
- Good nectar producers
- Bright colored, usually red
- Long blooming

You may want to keep this in mind, when selecting new plants for your garden.



An irregularly shaped garden graces the front yard.



Here's a landscape bed, right at the front of the house. The purple verbena shown here will spread into a gorgeous ground cover. I have this same plant at my own home.

Tick Website Available from The University of Rhode Island

One of our best resources for preventing tick bites is centered in the tiny state of Rhode Island. Rhode Island is so far away, yet this website maintains a national database of information about tick controls.

The University of Rhode Island maintains tickencounter.org. It's an interactive website that has the most information about ticks that we've ever seen.

For example, they have a front page alert about what ticks are currently active in different areas. This website maintains photographs that will help you identify any ticks you may encounter.

When we visited this website while writing this newsletter, we found a nifty tip that may be helpful when you're gardening. Ticks hate DRYNESS.

One of the best things you can do after being outdoors is to take your clothing off and throw it into the dryer before you wash it. Clothing that's left in the hamper may put the next person who touches it at risk. They suggest you dry first, then wash in hot water.

There are many more suggestions throughout the site. We'll refer to this site again in the next newsletter, since I believe in tick prevention so passionately. My critical encounter with a tick caused me to develop my tick repellent barrier

spray service. Please contact me if you're interested in a free estimate.

\$25 Off Our Tick Repellent Spray

This coupon is redeemable for \$25 off our tick repellent barrier spray when you sign up with us. You'll have peace of mind from the problems of a tick bite after we treat your property.

We'll customize a program designed to protect your outdoor areas from disease-carrying ticks. Keep your family, friends and even your pets safe during the warmer months!

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Coupon expires August 31, 2012 One coupon per household.

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