



The Glenwild Gardener



Volume 3, Issue 1



April 1998

“And when your
back stops
aching and your
hands begin to
harden
You will find
yourself a
partner
In the glory
of the
garden”

Rudyard
Kipling
1865-1936

“Spring has
come again
And cherry
trees bloom
in the
mountains”

Ryokan

No Time To Garden? Nonsense!

Spring may be unfolding in a somewhat wrinkled way this year, but unfolding it is, and we are happy to see it as usual. If you are reading this article, I'm going to assume you are a gardener of some sort. (One would hope a Glenwild Gardener). We all seem to have less time on our hands for our favorite hobby, (could it be that computer sucking up precious moments, or just too many errands to run? To say nothing of children). Yet there *are* ways to save time and still have a beautiful yard and garden.

One way is simply to be organized. I'm still trying this and when I accomplish it fully I'll let you know...but every little bit helps. Return tools to their proper place every time you use them. Clean them as you go. Use the right tool

for the job. Hire someone else when it just makes sense to do so. (Figure out what your time is really worth). Buy slow release fertilizers so you need only think about it twice a year. Put mostly native plants in your garden. They need much less care.

Also, properly preparing your soil before you plant anything saves tons of time in the future.

Most gardeners have found that doing a little bit every day is the only way to keep up, and to get the daily dose of our passion. Leaving it all to Saturday just doesn't seem to work for most of us.

However you can though, just keep gardening!

By-the-way, for those who are wondering and keep asking, my wedding was perfect. Thanks to El Nino, we had 60 weather on January 3rd. Thank you for all



A Cure For Our Hemlocks?

Jedid Mackinnon Brass

A story ran in the New York times on February 17, 1998 about Ladybugs coming to the rescue of our hemlocks. Tiny parasitic insects called Woolly Adelgids are killing our hemlocks as many of you have probably already sadly noticed. The bugs suck the juices out of the needles and can kill the tree within a few years. The white fuzzy spots running up and down the stems and needles are the

egg sacs. It is believed the adelgid originally came from Japan on infected horticultural ornamentals. We've been recommending treatment of dormant oil in the dormant season and insecticidal soap or Isotox during the growing season. None of us would regret having to give up this spraying job!

(Continued on page 2)





Ferns in the Bulb Garden by Tonya Brozowski, Bloomingdale

If you have a particular area in your garden that is shaded in summer by deciduous trees, try planting early spring bulbs such as hyacinth, tulips, daffodils, and narcissus in these areas since they bloom before the leaves are on the trees. You can also add woodland hyacinth, scilla, windflowers or anemones, and snowdrops for lovely drifts of color.

After the springtime blooms have disappeared, your wooded area may seem bare. If this is the case, include clumps of ferns in strategic places to provide greenery and structure after the bulbs and wildflowers have departed for the year. The fronds often unfold their curious fiddleheads just as the blossoms of spring reach their peak and conveniently spread their leaves in time to hide unsightly fading bulb foliage that must remain to produce next year's blossoms. When the ferns are left alone they provide a cool, restful garden. Color may vary from lime-green through blue-green and dark green, and can also include the lovely pinkish silver of the Japanese Painted Fern. Textures range from finely cut and lacy to coarse and bold. Some ferns, such as the Cinnamon Stick Fern, grow strongly upright with sword shaped fronds; others, like the Maidenhair Fern are soft and rounded, forming circular fronds of translucent foliage. Hay Scented Fern

spreads to form a knee high carpet of fragrant green under the trees.

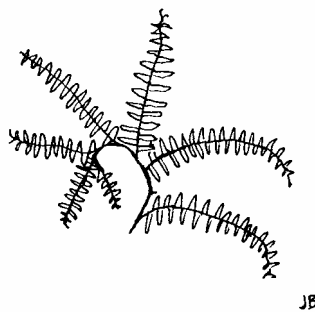
Other early bulbs, (which must be planted in the fall as bulbs, or this spring already in bloom), are:

- Fritillaria—Checkered Lily
- Crocus
- Muscari—Grape Hyacinth
- Chionodoxa—Glory of the Snow
- Anemone—Windflower
- Lily of the Valley

I also find that species, or rock garden tulips work well as they bloom early and need very little dividing.

Some more ferns:

- Interrupted Fern
- Ostrich Fern
- Korean Fern
- Crested Wood Fern
- Lady fern
- Common Wood Fern
- Sensitive Fern



Hemlocks

(Continued from page 1)

The ladybugs in question are not our red and black 'good luck' ladies, they are rather a black ladybug the size of a poppy seed that lives in Japan and now in the forests of Virginia and Connecticut. Scientists have released them experimentally in these two states and have met with good results. (They reduced the populations by 47 to 100 percent in these studies). The bug was tested for three years for unwanted side effects and it passed with no problems according to Dr. Mark Mc Clure of Valley

Laboratory in Connecticut.

If the ladybug can keep up with the exploding adelgid population, we may have a chance to save our hemlocks. It may take more than just the ladybug though, and in New Jersey it seems researchers are going to try a Chinese ladybug, and an adelgid killing fungus may be tested in Vermont. For more information on this problem, please see the page [Ladybugs Coming to the Rescue of Threatened Hemlocks](#) at:

www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ipmnet/archive/mcclure/adelgidnyt.html

or contact Rutgers Cooperative



Organic Highlight Penobscot Compost

This year we have a new product from Maine, called Penobscot Blend Compost.

The recipe includes

Atlantic Salmon & Herring from

Passamaquoddy Bay,

Wild Blueberries,

Blue Mussels,

Spruce, Hemlock &

Fir from local mills,

Sphagnum Moss &

Peat from coastal

bogs & marshes

which absorbs 20

times it's weight in

water. The crushed

shells of the mussels

are a rich source of

natural calcium

carbonate ideal for

our acidic soils here

in the Northeast.

The use of these by-

products has created

a viable recycling

alternative for Maine

& the company

guarantees it's

product. This stuff is

beautiful—come see

a sample, & try it on

In the garden accessory room there are exciting new additions **Honeybees** are big this year and we've got many different companies represented from Carruth to Kinsman. **Butterflies, frogs and gargoyles** are still hot and getting better with each new order that comes in.

On a more practical note, we've got **key keepers, sundials, hose hangers**—you name it—in whimsical, classical, and Victorian styles.

New Perennial Stakes are a graceful way to keep your Delphiniums and Irises upright and showing off.

Great gifts for Mother's Day this year also include

- **copper garden markers,**
- **plant misters,**
- **watering cans,**
- **gloves (the gloves keep getting better!),**
- **books...**

How about a beautiful basket filled with her gardening wish list items and tied up with a pretty



Spring To Do's

- Uncover your bird baths, statuary and other concrete items. Immediately, your garden looks better! Wait until danger of frost is passed—this might not be until April.
- Spray Hemlocks with insecticidal soap. Do not use dormant oil after new growth starts as it kills the tender new shoots.
- Clean beds of last years leaves and dead stalks & uncover perennials and roses that were mulched over. This prevents fungus growth and rot.
- Prune: All deciduous shrubs and trees & dead branches on plants. Now is the time to shape roses if you didn't do it in the fall. Do not aggressively prune anything that has set bud already. I.e.: Rhododendrons.
- Fertilize sprouting bulbs with liquid fertilizer for fuller and more abundant blooms.
- Fertilize shrubs, trees & perennial beds with all purpose granular fertilizer and/or compost.
- Sharpen and oil all tools.
- Apply Preen—a pre-emergent. It prevents weed seeds from germinating.
- Start a compost bin or pile—it's easy! Ask us for a list of what you need, or get the book, Let It Rot!, by Stu Campbell. It's funny, easy to read and very informative.
- Start seeds indoors or sow *early* seeds outside (i.e.: peas, alyssum, lettuce, onions). These actually prefer the cool weather.
- Order your mulch and topsoil for early deliveries

Garden Recipe

Sautéed Stuffed Zucchini Blossoms
Have you ever *really* eaten flowers?

12 Zucchini Blossoms - remove pistils, leaving stems on.
 mince together
2 cloves garlic
1/4 teaspoon salt (preferably Kosher salt)
 mix with
1 cup goat cheese
1/2 cup fresh grated parmesan cheese
1 tablespoon fresh Italian parsley
1 tablespoon chopped fresh basil
1/4 teaspoon fresh mint
ground black pepper
 gently open petals of flowers and stuff with 1 tablespoon of mixture. Twist tops of petals together and dip into:
1 large eggwhite, lightly beaten
 then coat with *flour, salt & pepper*.
 Sauté in *olive oil* over medium heat until golden brown and serve immediately.

Spring Classes

Pruning - 4/20/98
 Children/Beginning Gardeners - 4/27/98
 (bring Mom or Dad)

Complete schedule will be available Open House weekend (4/18,19)
 Please call to register
 973-838-0174



The Sunken Garden

Walter De La Mare
1873-1956

“Speak not—whisper not:
Here groweth thyme and bergamot,
Dark-spiked Rosemary and myrrh
Lean stalked, purple lavender.”

104 Glenwild Avenue
Bloomingdale, NJ 07403



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Pansies

Pansies (*Viola x Wittrockiana*) are wonderful flowers coming back into popularity. These days, the colors are even more diverse with “watercolor” shades—beautiful pastels ranging from a buttery pale yellow to a faded chambray blue. Pansies are great to plant in the early spring garden and also autumn—A nice change from mums. And a light snowfall just seems to cheer them up even more.

Pansies make a fabulous cut flower, lasting for days and emitting a subtle fragrance. In our area, they will bloom from March to November if the summers stay cool. When the temperature does rise too much, cut them back and wait for them to pop up again in the fall. They prefer shade in the hot afternoons but will flower most



Pansies love being in container gardens and look great with white sweet alyssum.

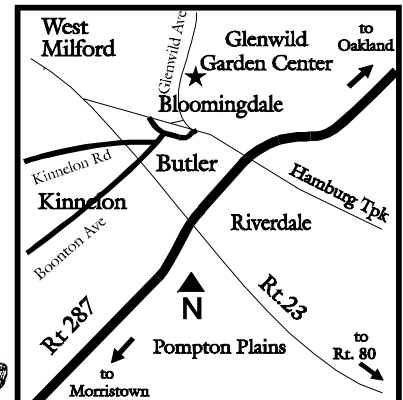
in full morning sunlight. Plant them in rich organic soil and “deadhead” (pinch off dead flower heads at base of stem) frequently.



(973) 838-0174

104 Glenwild Avenue
Bloomingdale, N.J. 07403

Exit #53 off Route 287
Just 2.5 miles to the garden center.



Off the beaten path, but worth the trip