

GET GROWING!

Groth's Gardens and Greenhouses Newsletter 🌸 August 2014

Greetings garden friends! We wanted to update you on what has been happening at Groth's as we approach the end of summer and the beginning of "mum season." After a wet, cool spring and an F1 tornado June 30, we are happy to share that we are still having a good season thanks to our loyal customers. Our house and greenhouses are still here and the mums in the field at that time were small enough to be unaffected. We did lose the cold frames we use for the Winterset hanging baskets and will have to get those rebuilt before the snow flies. The farm buildings on the north side of the farm had the most damage so the clean up will be ongoing. We are thankful the damage was no worse, since many around us lost entire buildings and parts of their homes. Our plants were relatively unscathed and things are looking great—just in time to help you refresh your pots and baskets that may be suffering from "vacationitis" or a pot that simply didn't get planted earlier in the season. We are here to help you add color and beauty to your home and enjoy your photos and success stories. We're also interested in your "not so great" ventures—gardening is a shared experience and we love to pass on what we've learned from our customers. Feel free to call with your questions or stop in for a visit!



**Perennial
Dig Out!**



Now Just \$12.75!

Plant now to have established plants by winter OR simply pot into a 12" pot to mix in with your other planters. A great way to bring the butterflies right to your back door!

August in the Garden

Now is the time to divide and transplant iris, peonies and all spring and early summer bloomers. Daylilies and hostas can be moved at any time as long as they are watered every couple of days. Most plants can be transplanted in August and September as long as we can keep their roots moist during this time of establishment. Mulching helps with weeds & moisture.

Discontinue fertilizing roses and perennials. They need to put their strength into roots rather than top growth as they prepare for winter.

Continue to fertilize your planters and hanging baskets. Many annuals will bloom well into the fall as long as they are properly fertilized.

Give petunias and other trailing plants a little trim around the bottom. This will help keep them full and blooming on the top of the basket.



The display garden is in the process of being dismantled and will eventually be grassed for more convenient overflow parking. We are offering generous clumps (about a 5-gallon bucket size) for only \$5.00. Anything in the garden is fair game—daylilies, hostas, asters, purple echinacea, rudbeckia, sedum, grasses, tall garden phlox, roses and many others. A fun and inexpensive way to expand your garden or a friend's garden. We ask that you do the digging or bring someone with you who can (Deb's digging days are over due to an old back injury). Thankfully, there are many smaller projects and planters that keep her blissfully entertained during the growing season :)

**25% Off
Patio Planters
and Hanging
Baskets!**

Most will bloom until frost—a great way to enjoy the color until the mums bloom! Prices





start at \$6.75 - 8" pots \$6.75, 11.5" pots -\$17.25, 13.5" pots - \$27.74, 16" pots - \$35.25. Choose from zinnias, vincas, marigolds, salvias, portulaca, coleus, begonias, impatiens, petunias, calibrachoa and more!

Hydrangeas Galore!

The Limelights and other paniculata types, often referred to as "hardy hydrangeas", are starting their mid summer show. Limelight is the #1 selling hydrangea in American right now and for good reason. Large blooms, starting white and changing to limegreen before transitioning to a beautiful pink in the fall. They make lovely fresh bouquets and also dry well for flowers that last all winter. I've seen the flower heads inserted into Christmas trees for a garden-themed decor. Very pretty!



We have a great selection of Limelights, Little Limelights, Bobo, Fire-light, Incrediball, Invincibelle Spirit, Let's Dance Blue Jangles, Let's Dance Diva, Tuff Stuff, Tiny Tuff Stuff and the brand new Little Quick Fire which is a smaller version of Quick Fire. This is the first hydrangea to bloom in the summer and holds its bright pink blooms until frost. Little Quick Fire grows only 4 - 5' tall and is perfect for smaller borders and landscape situations.

Mum Season Starts Aug. 22nd!

We will have the early season 12" mums available by the 22nd. Smaller pots will be ready about a week later. We are growing quite a few new varieties this year and they are sizing up quite well. Normally they will double in size during August, so we are on track to have some of the best plants in recent years. Of course, Mother Nature rules, so a cool August

will give us earlier blooms and a hot August will delay the color. Our mums are grown outdoors just south of the greenhouses and they bloom during the natural season for mums. Plants you see in the box stores that are blooming in late July or early August have usually been greenhouse grown under what is called a "shaded program." They are covered with a dark cloth for several hours during the day to shorten the daylight hours which is what mums respond to in order to set bud. Usually these plants will only bloom for a couple of weeks since they haven't had the full season to grow and are more stressed in a hot greenhouse environment. A well-grown field raised mum will be in color for 6 weeks with proper care. A great way to end the gardening season. Our prices will remain the same this year.

- 12" mum: \$15.99 ea. or 3/\$45.00
- 14" mixed color bowl: \$16.99
- 10" mum: \$10.99 or 3/\$30.00
- 16" oblong: \$16.99
- 6.5" mum: \$5.99 or 3/\$16.50
- 16" Jumbos: 29.99
- 10" hanging basket: \$16.99

We are growing a limited quantity of Jumbos in four different colors. We had discontinued these several years ago, they are huge and require a little different growing routine for us. Several people have requested we grow them again, so we decided to give it a whirl! We would suggest placing an early order if you would like us to call you when they're ready.

Proven Winner Shrubs

A great addition to the landscape and perennial borders! Hibiscus, roses, weigela, butterfly bushes and many of the hydrangeas are blooming now! Check our website for pricing.

Home Run rose – claimed to be hardier and more disease resistant than Knock Out roses! Very bright, true red, single blooms. Continuous blooming!



Sonic Bloom Pink weigela – Blooms all summer on a 4' tall by 4' wide plant.



Groth's Gardens & Greenhouses

2451 Cumming Rd., Winterset, Iowa 50273 🌸 (515) 462-4445
 Open 7 days a week! 🌸 Mon. - Sat. 9am - 6pm, Sun. Noon to 4pm
<http://www.grothsgardens.com>

Where Every Plant is a Work of Heart!

