

# Parkland Nurseries Garden Centre Ltd.

Garden Club Newsletter

Volume 21 Issue 4

Winter 2005

Another wonderful year of gardening is once again behind us. Now we find ourselves preparing for the Christmas season. My staff are busy preparing the garden shop for all those wonderful festive season gifts, plants, decorations, ornaments, trees and so much more. May I suggest for those family or friends that are the gardeners in your life that if you cannot find a suitable gift amongst our vast Christmas selection that you buy them a gift certificate that can be used later in the year.

Please come and visit us this holiday season and watch for our upcoming craft sales, Business After Hours, SPCA pet pictures with Santa and of course our Christmas gift to the community the famous Ice Sculptures.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday season!

Gloria

Come visit us Monday to Saturday 9:00 am until 6:00 pm and Sunday's from 11:00 am until 5:00 pm.

**Contact us for our extended Christmas shopping hours, event dates and times.**

## The Environmental Alternative



Living Christmas trees are a wonderful alternative to the traditional cut evergreen. A living Christmas tree is a live growing plant in a pot and must be kept inside all winter, and should be watered and cared for as if it were a houseplant. It should receive moderate to bright light, but should be kept in a cool place if at all possible.

Because of climatic restrictions in Alberta, we cannot easily return a potted evergreen to outdoors that has been kept inside our home for several weeks. Ask our knowledgeable staff about the special care of indoor evergreens.

The biggest advantage gained from having a living Christmas tree is that they stay fresh so they can be enjoyed from mid-November to late January, or longer, without becoming a dry fire hazard. They also maintain their fragrance the whole time.

We will carry several types, and colours of potted holly, juniper and spruce from 15" to 60" tall. While most are not winter hardy in our area, they can be put into large planters and enjoyed on the patio the following summer.

Try something different this year, come on in and check them out!



## Festive gift plants

Brightly colored plants make a wonderful cheery gift at Christmas time for the person who seems to “already have everything”.

Of course the most popular is still the traditional poinsettia and we have over 25 different varieties to choose from in almost every colour in the rainbow, including some unusual colours found only at Parkland! They come in every size from tiny 3” (7.5 cm) pots for table centers to giant specimen plants in 10” (25 cm) pots. We can add bright glitter to make them even more dazzling and we complete the “package” with a beautiful pot cover and hand-made bow.

Also available are potted evergreens that can be made into miniature Christmas trees. Christmas Cactus in a choice of at least five (5) different colours are another favorite.

Becoming increasingly popular as gifts are our custom designed Christmas dish gardens. Planted in a decorative wicker basket, each planter contains a selection of miniature poinsettias, tropicals, evergreens and more. Generally finished with an ornament, Christmas greeting and a bow, they make an absolutely delightful gift.

We have many more plants including a wide selection of tropical houseplants, Bonsai and Orchids. These plants will be on a display for your shopping pleasure from mid-November to Christmas. You really need to come and see them to believe them!

For information on how to care for any of these plants, ask our experts.

## Decorating with fresh evergreen boughs

The old traditional way of decorating for the festive season is once again gaining popularity. Nothing triggers the memory more than fragrance and the smell of fresh evergreens conjures great memories of Christmas past.

Cedar, pine and fir are the most popular and each have their own unique fragrance and are easy to work with. Holly, whether it is green or variegated, is the true classic of fresh holiday decorations. Springs of red berries, cones in all sizes and twigs of various types, all add a special touch.

Wreaths, swags and garlands can all be made from a combination of these delightful greens, and our garden center carries a full selection of all of these from mid-November on. We also carry a full selection of fresh ready to decorate wreaths, swags and garland, plus a very impressive selection of ribbons and bows to enhance your creations.

Fresh boughs last longer if they are hung in cooler, more humid locations. We also have floral preservatives and anti-dessicants to help keep your greens fresh.

Nothing says Christmas like fresh fragrant evergreens. Check out our garden center for a full Christmas experience.

## “Holiday in the house” courses

Saturday, December 3, 2005

### **Roll out the barrel**

9:30 am until 10:30 am

Course fee \$20.00 plus GST

Do not put away your flower containers. We will show you how to dress them for the holiday season with fresh greens and trimmings along with great holiday silks. Take home fresh evergreens for your own creation!

Saturday, December 3, 2005

### **Half lit (or how not to be)**

10:45 am until 11:45 am

Course fee \$10.00 plus GST

Have you ever wondered how we create such stunning Christmas tree theme displays? We will share some of our in-store secrets from “fluffing” your tree to proper lighting and how to display your ornaments for the best effect.

Saturday, December 3, 2005

### **Crowning glory**

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Course fee \$125.00 plus GST

Maximum 5 participants

The classic finishing touch that says “Christmas is here”, is that gorgeous mantle piece festooned with fresh fragrant evergreens, candles, ribbons, cones and ornaments. Participants will take home a complete mantle piece!

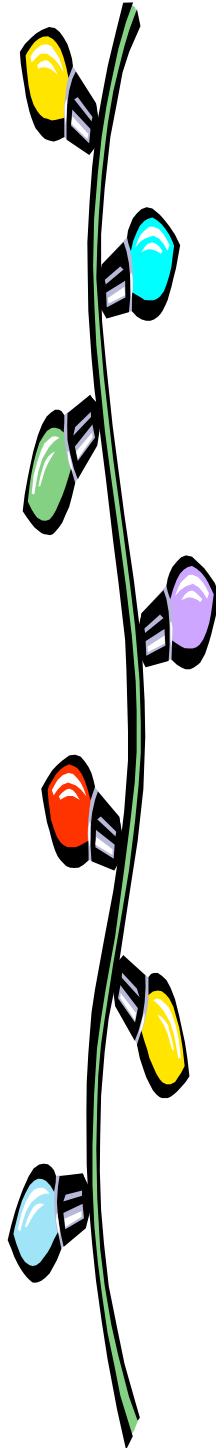
Saturday, December 3, 2005

### **Tie one on**

12:00 noon to 1:00 pm

Course fee \$15.00 plus GST

Learn how to make beautiful bows and great ways to use ribbon and garland to unite the Christmas theme throughout your home. Take your creation home!



Saturday, December 3, 2005

### **A round for the house**

1:45 pm until 3:00 pm

Course fee \$45.00 plus GST

Nothing beats the scent of real evergreen boughs. We will help you complete your own wreath of fresh BC evergreens with decorations to match your décor. Take your creation home!

Saturday, December 3, 2005

### **Basket case**

3:15 pm until 4:30 pm

Course fee \$30.00 plus GST

We will show you how to make up a festive wicker dish garden with Christmas plants and accessories to make a truly unique living gift. Take your creation home!

Saturday, December 3, 2004

### **All aglow**

4:45 pm until 6:00 pm

Course fee \$40.00 plus GST

We will teach you how to make a festive arrangement with candles, fresh evergreens and more to add that warm flickering glow to your Christmas décor. Go home with a completed arrangement!

Saturday, December 10, 2005

### **Just a little nip**

2:00 pm until 3:00 pm

Course fee \$10.00 plus GST

Learn how to prune your trees and shrubs. From evergreens to fruit trees we will cover the basics and give you hints on which ones can be used for crafts. Dress for the weather!

## Christmas trees 2005

We offer five select premium quality trees and can supply trees up to 14-16'.

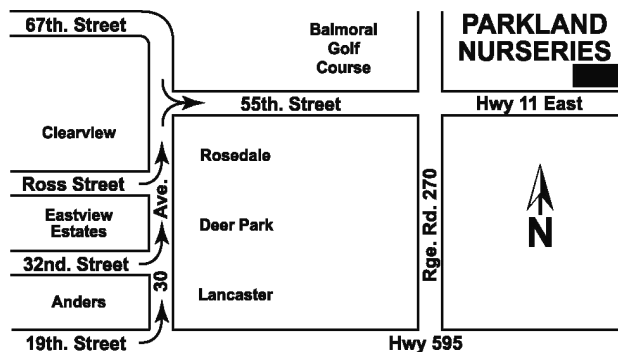
- Balsam Fir** A nice sheared pyramidal tree, dark green foliage. Easy to hang ornaments on. Comes in sizes 6' to 14' high. Very fragrant.
- Douglas Fir** A natural looking traditional tree. Good for holding ornaments. Comes in sizes 7' to 9' high.
- Fraser Fir** Beautiful blue coloured fir tree, sheared for a pyramidal look. Also good for ornaments. Comes in sizes 7' to 8' high. Great fragrance
- White Pine** Nice rich green long needled pine tree. Excellent fragrant tree. Comes in sizes 7' to 10' high.
- Blackhills Spruce** Nice dark green short needled spruce tree. Good for hanging ornaments. Comes in sizes 6' to 7' high. This is new to Parkland Garden Centre for Christmas 2005. Old fashioned down home Christmas fragrance.

### Care for fresh cut trees

- \* Cut 3/4" off of trunk before placing in water.
- \* The first watering should be hot tap water, this enables the sap to flow while the tree thaws out.
- \* It is critical that you keep water in the reservoir at all times.

Fresh living gift plants are not cold tolerant and even a few seconds of exposure to our frosty winter weather will damage or shock them. At our garden center we wrap, sleeve and bag all our beautiful plants, free of charge, so they are properly protected for the trip home in even our coldest winter weather!

Parkland Garden Centre publishes the  
Garden Club News letter  
Articles are written and edited by the "specialists" of  
Parkland Garden Centre  
Subscription is free  
Should you have any questions please feel free to  
contact us at:  
Parkland Garden Centre  
RR#2 Red Deer, AB T4N 5E2  
Telephone: (403) 346-5613 Fax: (403) 346-4443



**Parkland Nurseries**  
**Garden Centre Ltd.**

**Garden Club Coupon**  
Fresh evergreen boughs  
**ONE (1) FREE bundle**  
With purchase of two or more  
bundles of equal or greater  
value, upon presenting this  
coupon

Limit one coupon per customer  
While quantities last  
Expiry date: December 31, 2005