

HOME & GARDEN

Plant sales encourage gardeners

Spring is full of lots of gardening activities. The dogwoods are blooming, along with the India Hawthorn, and you get the feeling that you live in a fairyland.

It is also time to spruce up the garden, clean up the winter debris and add new plants and shrubs to the existing garden. Get out your pencil and paper and listen up. There are many plant sales and spring activities to take advantage of.

First up is the Spartanburg Community College's Horticulture Department plant sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the greenhouses near the SCC garden. The dynamic trio of Jason Bagwell, Kevin Paris and Jay Moore from SCC has a lot of cutting-edge plants for sale this year. They promise the fall plant sale will be, in their words, "rockin'," as they have some special plants that will be ready for sale in the fall.

The spring sale includes a lot of annuals, mixed containers and color bowls that everyone likes to pick up for an instant pot planting. The mixed containers and color bowls run from \$10 to \$20. They are offering a lot of annuals, coleus, euphorbia, perennials and vegetable plants that start at \$1. In addition, Parris



Linda Cobb

Garden Cameos

says he likes his selection of dwarf cryptomeria such as Gyokruya, Gracilis and Taiho Tamasugi. He is also offering some quality Japanese maples such as the weeping lacecap and upright types. The trees and shrubs range from \$4 to \$25.

At the same time, right next door to the SCC plant sale, you can also shop the Spartanburg Men's Garden Club plant sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at Spartanburg Community College's campus greenhouse and garden area. SMGC has a long history of selling quality plants at reasonable prices. A complete plant list is available online at www.dirtdaubers.org. Click on plant sales and then campus map for directions. We advise you to come early for the best selections.

Some of the plants available are a great selection of six varieties of crepe myrtles such as Natchez,



Richard Bayne, left, a Spartanburg Men's Garden Club volunteer, and his mother, Peggy Wilson, a club member, place daylilies into pots Thursday in preparation for the club's annual spring plant sale at Spartanburg Community College on Saturday. Visit GoUpstate.com to see a gallery of photos from the plant sale preparation.

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Salmon, Watermelon Red and Far East. Also being offered are four varieties of blueberry bushes. Blueberries are one of the best landscape shrubs because of the spring flowers that turn into edible blueberries and the great fall color of blazing red leaves. Purchase several varieties of blueberries so they will cross pollinate. There are seven varieties of magnolia trees—all the new cultivars that are vastly improved over the older versions.

Community tree planting has been a special interest of the Men's Garden Club, which celebrates its 63rd anniversary this year. This sale provides funds for the club's tree-

scaping and educational projects. The club is open to both men and women, and membership forms will be available at the sale.

The recent publication "And the Trees Remain: Spartanburg Men's Garden Club" by Henry Pittman will be available for sale at \$13.95. It is an "Unofficial History of Gardening Education, Community Beautification and Camaraderie" since 1948.

The First African Violet Plant Society of Spartanburg will celebrate its 33rd plant sale at Hatcher Gardens, 832 John B. White Sr. Blvd., in Spartanburg, from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and from 9 a.m. to noon

Saturday. Drop by and scoop up some fabulous African violets at great prices. What makes this sale great is that most of the plants are grown locally by the members themselves. Members will be available to talk about their club, should you want to join them for meetings.

Last on our busy spring to-do list is to drop off any household hazardous waste at the annual collection day, which will be Saturday from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Spartanburg County Administrative Building, 366 N. Church St., rain or shine. This is an opportunity for residents of Spartanburg County to bring aerosols, clean-

ers, corrosives, batteries, paint, thinners, pesticides and chemicals and have them properly destroyed without harming our environment. No commercial, construction or business waste will be accepted.

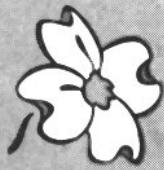
In addition, there will be rain barrels available for purchase as well as an onsite lawn mower exchange. Bring in your old gasoline-powered lawn mowers and purchase a battery-powered model at a special price.

Linda Cobb is a master gardener who lectures, teaches and designs gardens in South Carolina. Reach her at 864-574-8493, lindacobb@charter.net, website www.mygardenersguide.com.

Spartanburg Men's Garden Club

Saturday, April 14th

9:00—1:00



Tree, Shrub & Plant Sale

at the
**Horticultural Gardens
Spartanburg Community College**
I-85 Business at Fairforest Road

**Complete Plant List At
www.DirtDaubers.org**

Hundreds of plants - Reasonably priced

