GUIDED TOUR XX MYRIAD BOTANICAL GARDENS

April, 2024 "What's in Bloom"



Common Name: Reblooming Lilac

Botanical Name: Syringa x Bloomerang©

The reblooming lilac is a very exciting cultivar. It blooms heavily in the spring and fills the landscape with its iconic sweet scent. After a short pause it will continue to bloom midsummer through the autumn. Bloomerang© is a little more compact and stays under 5 feet. Additionally, it has disease resistance that old lilacs lack.



Common Name: Bridalwreath Spirea

Botanical Name: Spiraea x vanhouttei 'Renaissance'

Bridalwreath spirea is known for its graceful arching branches that are covered in pure white flowers each spring. The slender arching stems can easily be bent to form a wreath of flowers, giving this species its name. The small dark green leaves can develop an attractive red-yellow fall color. This shrub will grow to a height and width of about 8 feet and is definitely a show-stopper in full bloom.



Common Name: Snowdrop Windflower

Botanical Name: Anemone sylvestris

Windflower has a distinct woodland feel with its feathery, deeply lobed foliage. This perennial flowers in late spring with an abundance of two-inch-wide white flowers. Each flower has five large petals and a distinct golden ring of anthers in the center. The fuzzy white seed heads are particularly interesting. It grows underground with rhizomes and spreads slowly.



Common Name: Chinese Snowball Viburnum

Botanical Name: Viburnum macrocephalum

This semi-evergreen or sometimes evergreen shrub has a rounded form. In late spring, it bears flower clusters, sometimes up to 8 inches wide, that start out chartreuse and turn pure white. Dark green leaves are semievergreen in southern states, where it can grow to 20 feet high and 15 feet wide. It does best in moist well-drained soil, and when it's sheltered from cold, drying winds.



Common Name: Catmint

Botanical Name: Nepeta 'Cats Pajamas'

The genus *Nepeta* over 250 species native to Europe, Asia, and Africa. Most catmints are aromatic with whirls of blue, lavender or white flowers and are drought tolerant. 'Cats Pajamas' is a compact cultivar which features lavender-blue flowers and boasts an earlier bloom time than most other varieties. It flowers from late spring to early summer. This plant is attractive for butterflies and other pollinators.





Botanical Name: Geranium maculatum

Wild geranium is native to woodlands of the eastern United States. Violet saucer-shaped flowers bloom atop beds of dark, toothed palmate leaves in spring. Geranium, Latin for crane, is so named because the seed capsule resembles a crane's bill. It is an excellent native for woodland and shade gardens.



Common Name: Chinese Ground Orchid

Botanical Name: Bletilla striata

Your friends will be very impressed when you tell them you have this Asian terrestrial orchid in your garden. But just so you know, the Chinese ground orchid is super easy to grow in the shade! It's winter hardy in Oklahoma and returns each spring to send up delicate looking Cattleyalike flowers by early summer. The lance-shaped leaves have deeply textured pleats that will provide interest the rest of the season. This perennial spreads slowly and stays in neat clumps.

GUIDED TOUR MYRIAD BOTANICAL GARDENS









Common Name: Japanese Rose

Botanical Name: Kerria japonica 'Pleniflora'

Japanese rose is a great addition to any shade garden with its graceful arching branches that grow 3 to 6 feet tall and 6 to 8 feet wide. The branches are light green and retain their bright color even in winter. In the spring, rose-like yellow flowers cover the shrub, and it reblooms off and on throughout the summer. This plant can withstand dry to wet soils, deer, pollution and heavy pruning.

Common Name: Eastern Red Columbine

Botanical Name: Aquilegia canadensis

Columbine is an Oklahoma native woodland perennial that adds grace and charm to any shade garden. The gray-green leaves have a soft texture. In late spring, showy bell-like flowers appear with unique spurred tubes that point up. This plant is attractive to hummingbirds and longtongued insects. In the garden it will spread quickly by self-seeding.

Common Name: Black Locust

Botanical Name: *Robinia pseudoacacia* 'Purple Robe' Black Locust 'Purple Robe' provides a show-stopping display of lavender, wisteria-like, fragrant flowers in late-spring. Flowers can reach eight inches long and typically all the flowers are done blooming within two weeks. The foliage can turn yellow in the fall. This variety is typically thornless but some plants will form them. This tree casts a medium speckled shade and grows up to 40 feet high. Its pinnate leaves allow more light through its canopy than other shade trees, so a lawn can grow better under it.

Common Name: Blue Star Flower

GUIDED TOUR MYRIAD BOTANICAL GARDENS

Botanical Name: Amsonia tabernaemontana

This plant is a 1-3 ft., erect-stemmed perennial forming large, multistemmed clumps. The smooth stems are crowded with narrow, oval leaves which turn golden-yellow in the fall. Blue tubular flowers, the rim flaring to a star-shape, appear in loosely congested clusters at the tips of the stems. The 'Blue Ice' cultivar is planted in the Water Wise Garden east of the Prairie Garden. It is a much more compact and densely growing variety reaching 15 inches tall, and it blooms much more vigorously.





Notes:

Common Name: Golden Alexanders

Botanical Name: Zizia aurea

This native spring blooming perennial is a relative of the carrot and is a host plant for the black swallowtail butterfly. It is most often found in habitats such as moist black soil prairies, openings in moist to mesic woodlands, savannas, thickets, limestone glades and bluffs, power line clearings in woodland areas, abandoned fields, and wet meadows. Golden Alexanders is known for its ability to survive dry summers even though it prefers wet habitats.

Common Name: Bugleweed

Botanical Name: Ajuga reptans 'Bronze Beauty'

Bugleweed has a dense and spreading growth habit, making it an excellent groundcover. It has a dense display of blue flowers in the early spring. The burgundy leaves of bugleweed are also attractive the rest of the year. Some varieties are even variegated with shades of cream, light green and lavender. This groundcover grows well in shade and partial sun, but will have more colorful foliage and flowers in the sun. The Bronze Beauty variety has wider leaves with a more intense bronze hue.

Myriad Botanical Gardens Guided Tours are every second Friday, 1pm and 10am, last Saturday monthly,.

