

ENCHANTED

NURSERIES & LANDSCAPES

2 0 0 6 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

ENCHANTED FOREST
10611 FM 2759
RICHMOND, TX 77469
281-937-9449

ENCHANTED GARDENS
6420 FM 359
RICHMOND, TX 77469
281-341-1206

Enchanted Moments



Santa's Bringing Holiday Fun!

Join us Saturday Dec 9 at Enchanted Forest and Saturday Dec 16 at Enchanted Gardens, both from 11:00 - 3:00 to take photos with Santa, make holiday crafts, enjoy yummy refreshments and enjoy live music in the garden.

The Gift of Memories

Santas, Christmas trees, sparkling decorations - and it's 80 degrees outside! Snow is so rare here and, well - snowmen are mostly in books, songs, and sweet childhood dreams. I have such fond memories of my childhood. Truly, everything I needed in life, I learned in my small hometown. (I just didn't know it then!)

One long-ago December comes to mind. It was 1947 and quite cold (cold for the Gulf Coast anyway.) Little girls were required to wear dresses to school, so cold days meant lots of little cold legs!

In sun, sleet (rare), or rain, I walked home each day from school for lunch. On this particular day, my new brother-in-law was at our house for lunch. He had been in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a hero to me. (He has never missed a reunion with his shipmates to this day-amazing!!) During lunch he pre-

sented me with a special surprise - a retractable ball-point pen - and oh, my, it was red! I had never even seen a ball-point pen and this prize was mine! I hurriedly put on my coat and gloves to prepare for the cold walk back to school - and in my left hand - the prized pen. I could hardly wait to put it carefully in my desk and dreamt of using it (only pencils were allowed.) You must have guessed that during my walk, the treasured pen fell from my gloved hand only to wait for another child to find it. (Could this be the basis for my unwillingness to use garden gloves? Oh, well that's another story!)

I never told anyone of the loss of such a simple, but to me, precious object. Now I see it as a valuable lesson. Though lost, the gift was gladly given to me, I was thankful - and I remember.

---Betty

"Instead of a gem, or even a flower, if we could cast the gift of a lovely thought into the heart of a friend, that would be giving as the angels give." George MacDonald



Plant Highlight: Delphiniums

Did you see these spectacular blooms in our gardens last Spring? The oohs and aahs we hear from our customers each spring over the gorgeous delphiniums delight us. There are usually two questions to follow those oohs and aahs...Question #1: What are those???. Question #2: Do you have any and where are they? Not such an easy answer because we hate to disappoint such excited customers. By the time these beauties are blooming it is generally too late to plant them in the ground and we will rarely have any for sale at this time. So when you see these unexciting little green plants in the winter think back to last Spring of those breathe-taking blue spikes of flowers. These exquisite flowers need at least 6 hours of sun in a well drained flower bed. They come in many shades of blue as well as pinks and whites. They bloom February through May and are a stunning backdrop in the garden.

Enchanted Gift Giving

Visit our gift shops and garden centers during the holidays for unique gift giving ideas as well as a lovely selection of holiday décor. Gifts for the home, garden and gardener inspire and delight. For the nature lover on your list wonderful windchimes, garden statuary, bird baths and even fountains make special gifts. For those hard to buy for an array of unique and personal gifts fill the gift shop with possibilities. Enchanted Gift Certificates are a popular gift giving option.

Beyond Pansies and Snaps

We love pansies and snapdragons. But there are some other choices for Fall and Spring color that you may not have considered. A few of our favorites include:
Poppies - in shades of orange, yellow, pink and whites; these are some of our favorites; full to part sun
Calendulas - in shades of yellow and orange in varying heights; full daisy type flowers are stunning and bright; full to part sun.
Delphiniums - (see article to left)
English Daisies - petite daisy-type flowers; make charming border or container plants; part sun/part shade.
Primroses - delightful plants don clusters of flowers in pastel shades; prefer shade/part shade.
Phlox - these jewels come in an array of colors and bloom until late Spring; full to part sun.
Foxgloves - enchanting beauties with spikes of bell-shaped flowers in pastel shades; part sun/shade.
Cyclamen - stunning blooms on luscious foliage; prefer shade/part shade

Delicate Mint Thins

1/2 cup butter, softened
 1/2 cup sugar
 1 egg yolk
 3 tsp. milk
 1/2 tsp vanilla
 1 1/2 cups flour
 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
 1/8 tsp salt
 1 cup fresh mint (finely chopped)
 1 2/3 cups chocolate chips
 1 Tbsp shortening

Cream butter and sugar. Beat in yolk and vanilla. Add dry ingredients (which have been blended) alternately with milk.

Stir in mint. Shape into two 8 inch rolls. Wrap rolls with plastic wrap and chill at least two hours.

Cut into 1/4 inch slices. Bake one inch apart on greased cookie sheet. Bake at 350 for 8 to 12 minutes.

In microwave safe bowl, melt chocolate chips. Stir in shortening until melted. Dip half of each cookie in chocolate. Cool on waxed paper.

“Every act of Love is a work of Peace, no matter how small.” Mother Teresa

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

When & Where:

Enchanted Forest

Saturday December 9th 11:00 - 3:00
10611 FM 2759 Richmond
281-937-9449

Enchanted Gardens

Saturday December 16 11:00 - 3:00
6420 FM 359 Richmond
281-341-1206



After taking photos with Santa and telling him all your holiday wishes, join us in making some special holiday crafts and enjoying yummy refreshments. There will be live music in the gardens for an enchanting holiday shopping experience. We hope you will join us!

Ten Reasons to Plant Trees Now

Courtesy of National Arbor Day Foundation

- 1) Trees planted in the Fall and Winter will be more established and able to withstand the scorching Summer months.
- 2) Trees help clean the air. They release oxygen and remove air pollution.
- 3) Trees conserve energy in the Summer, and save you money. Properly planted trees can cut your air-conditioning costs by 15 - 35%.
- 4) Trees bring songbirds close by. Birdsong will fill the air as trees provide nesting sites, food and cover for countless species.
- 5) Trees around your home can increase the value of your property by 15% or more. Studies of comparable houses with and without trees place a markedly higher value on those whose yards are sheltered by trees.
- 6) Trees help clean our rivers and streams. Trees hold the soil in place and reduce polluted runoff into our waterways.
- 7) Trees conserve energy in the Winter. Trees can slow cold Winter winds, and can cut your heating costs 10-20%.
- 8) Trees fight global warming. They remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, the major contributor to the threat of global warming.
- 9) Trees make your home, and your neighborhood, more beautiful. Trees mark the changing seasons, and add grace and seasonal color. Trees make a house feel like a home.
- 10) Trees make memories. Planting a tree to commemorate a birth or a special day is a wonderful tradition and who doesn't have childhood memories of that perfect climbing tree?

Winter Gardening Tip:

Water plants well if freeze is in forecast. If freezing temperatures are headed our way, watering the night before will prevent the plant from dehydrating and keep the roots warmer.



"For somehow, not only at Christmas, but all the long year through, the joy that you give to others is the joy that comes back to you." John Greenleaf Whittier

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar

Saturday December 9.....Visit with Santa

Santa will be visiting the children and taking photos with them today! There will be holiday crafts and goodies for all. Live music for your enjoyment. **Enchanted Forest 11:00 - 3:00**

Saturday December 16.....Visit with Santa

Santa will be visiting the children and taking photos with them today! There will be holiday crafts and goodies for all. Live music for your enjoyment. **Enchanted Gardens 11:00 - 3:00**

Wednesday December 27.....After Christmas Sale Begins

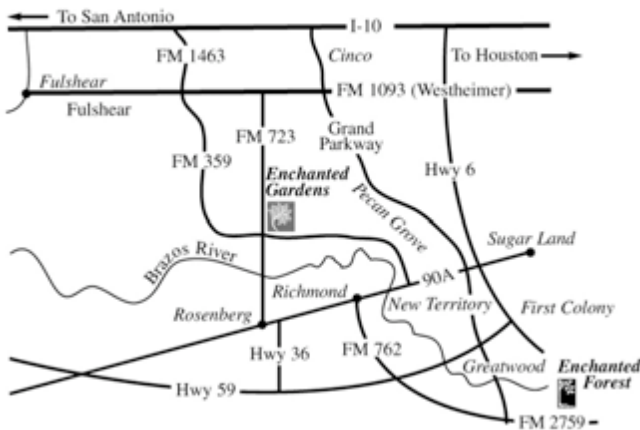
Fantastic deals on Christmas merchandise as well as select non-seasonal items. **Enchanted Gardens & Enchanted Forest**

Saturday January 20.....Kids Arbor Day Celebration

Bring the kids out so they can receive their own tree for planting at home. Kids can create a tree related craft and enjoy some hot chocolate. **Enchanted Gardens & Enchanted Forest 12:00 - 2:00**

Saturday February 17.....Kids Club

Today our junior gardeners can join us in making a rain gauge for their garden. Refreshments will be provided. **Enchanted Gardens & Enchanted Forest 12:00 - 2:00**



Winter Coupon
10% Off
 purchase of \$20 or more
 Expires January 31, 2007
 Not valid with any other sales or specials.

Winter Hours
 Mon - Sat 8:30 - 5:00 ♦ Sundays 10:00 - 4:00
 closing at Noon Dec 24, closed Dec 25 & 26,
 closing at Noon Dec 31, closed Jan 1 & 2

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