

Ebert's Greenhouse Village

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Container Gardening

April is National Garden month - The slogan for 2005 is "Give A Garden"

The Nation as a Community Celebration promotes benefits of gardening to adults, children, teachers, garden centers and communities, anyone who has or could have their lives enhanced by dirt under the fingernails or the joy of giving and receiving living gifts.

In the past, gardening was an activity that required a large yard and lots of work! Hundreds of years ago the only way that people could afford fresh fruits and vegetables was to grow them. Almost everyone had a garden. They also had more time. Container gardens provide many of the same benefits as traditional beds and borders, but without the digging, weeding and other time-consuming chores.

A few plants can transform a little space into a beautiful area!

Why plant a container garden?

- You have a small area that you would like to fill with color!
- You would like a landmark along a path
- You may have an entry way or steps that would benefit from a colorful display.
- A colorful planter can even be used to attract butterflies and hummingbirds
- Use a small container to continue the color or theme of an area

Choosing the your container

- Choose a container that will compliment your area
 - Is it a formal area?
 - Would an old-fashioned country pot continue the theme of your area?
 - A more subtle looking pot may accent some areas.
 - You may want a brightly colored pot to brighten up a space!
- Choose a pot that has good drainage
 - There are very few plants that enjoy sitting with "wet feet"!

- If your container doesn't have good drainage you may want to add stones or packing peanuts to allow the excess water to drain away from the roots.

The Proper soil is, of course, a very important consideration.

- Use a container mix for your pots and baskets.
- Regular garden soil retains too much moisture and is hard on the root system of the plants.

Choosing your plants.

- How much light will the container receive?
- How large is your container?