



Better Environments

A newsletter from Bennett Landscape, 25889
 Belle Porte Avenue, Harbor City, CA 90710,
 Office: 310-534-3543, Fax: 310-534-3176,
 Email: BennettLandscape@cox.net, Website:
 www.bennet-landscape.com

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Water Efficiency in your Garden:

- * Mulch
- * Water deeply and less frequently
- * Water early in the day
- * Use Soaker Hoses or drip irrigation whenever possible
- * Don't set sprinklers so high they give off mist

APRIL GARDENING TIPS

- * Clean out spent window boxes and revitalize them with annuals and early blooming perennials. It is also time to feed those perennials that have started to show themselves in earnest and begin their spring growth spurt.
- * Take wintered-over fuchsias and geraniums out of hiding. Cut them back (down to the rim of the container, if in hanging basket). Lift them out of the container and repot with fresh soil. Feed with organic, slow-release fertilizer. It will be broken down and ready for the plant when it begins this year's growth.
- * Resist the urge to cut down or tie up the foliage of tulips and daffodils after they are finished blooming. The bulbs extract and store the nutrients from the leaves for next year's growth and bloom. By cutting back too soon, you risk next year's flowers. By tying them up, you decrease their ability to photosynthesize and create the food they need to store. Once the leaves are at least halfway died back, they can be trimmed.
- * Feed with organic, slow-release fertilizer. It will be broken down and ready for the plant when



April Showers Bring May Flowers

it begins this year's growth. Fertilizer will work well for most plantings. **Give us a call if you have any questions about feeding specific plants.**

Arbor Day is April 3rd

Plant a tree or large shrub for Arbor Day. There is a wide range to choose from. Please call our office for some suggestions.



PLANTS AND SLUGS

It may seem too early to think about summer, but now is the time to plant gladiolas, dahlias, irises, lilies, crocosmia, and much more! Also suggested are spring favorites like anemones and lily-of-the-valley, and an enticing assortment of bare-root perennials for shade.

April is also the time to plant Impatiens. The winter frost months have past and there is a beautiful assortment of colors available now. They will last all the way to the fall.

Put in plant stakes, peony cages and other supports now while the plants are still small and manageable. This

year we have a line of green wire cages which will disappear into your landscape for readily while keeping your plants standing tall.

Slugs—Need we say more? We recommend using 'Worry Free' granules to stop the damage from these garden pests; and they are not harmful to pets and birds.

Landscape Maintenance Services

Quarterly Report Card

Bennett Landscape values your continued patronage! In participating in this quarterly survey, you help let us know how we're doing. We continuously strive to not only meet your expectations, but to exceed them! If you could please take a moment to fill out our questionnaire, we will follow up with you and make sure any issues or requests you have will be taken care of in a timely manner. Your answers will aid us in our continuing effort to provide you with the best service possible. Upon return of this sheet, you will also be entered into our random drawing to receive 3 flats of seasonal color. Thank you!

Please rate the following: E = Excellent F = Fair P = Poor

Foreman: Attitude _____ Performance _____

Crew: Attitude _____ Performance _____

Job Performance Overall: _____

Responsiveness: _____

How are requests handled? _____

Communication: Crew _____

Supervisor _____

Office _____

Please answer the following:

What do we need to improve upon?

Any special requests for your crew?

Is there any other work you would like us to estimate at this time? (Tree trimming, irrigation, design, planting, masonry, lighting, fence, etc.) Please elaborate if possible.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Print Customer Name: _____

8 a.m.—5 p.m. Contact Telephone: _____

Cell Phone/Alternate #: _____

Property Address: _____

Upcoming Events:

Nature Walk, April 12, 2008, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Linden H. Chandler Preserve: Traverse the grasslands, restored butterfly habitat and willow wetlands of this historic preserve. Easy to Moderate.

Honda For Our Children, April 27, 2008. The 23rd annual Honda For Our Children Food and Wine Festival will be presented by Little Company of Mary Community Health Foundation and Sandpipers. Come prepared to enjoy the test that California has to offer with over 100 of the finest restaurants, wineries and breweries represented. The spectacular silent and live auctions feature unique gift items, sports tickets and memorabilia, golf getaways, dining, entertainment, spa certificates, and exciting travel packages. Purchase an opportunity ticket and you may be the lucky winner of a 2008 Acura MDX. Proceeds benefit Little Company of Mary's Partners for Healthy Kids mobile pediatric van and Sandpipers charities.

Location: American Honda Headquarters
1919 Torrance Blvd., Torrance

Gold Sponsor: \$5,000

Silver Sponsor: \$4,000

Bronze Sponsor: \$3,000

Reservations: \$150 Table of Ten: \$1,500

Tickets at the door: \$175

For details contact: Stephanie Turner 310-303-5348

South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

Bird Walks in the Garden: Join the group Bird Walks in the Garden. Walks are the **1st Sunday** and the **3rd Wednesday** of every month. Come and learn to spot the different and unusual species. Walks start at **8:00 a.m.**

Allergy Smart Gardening: For the millions of people who suffer with these conditions, the effects interfere with the pleasure of gardening. Here are some steps to help lessen the symptoms so you can enjoy your time in the garden:

- * Be wise about your plant selections.
- * Choose the right time to garden. Limit your time on high pollen days and avoid dusk and early morning
- * Avoid plants with a heavy scent
- * Keep your grass cut short
- * Keep your garden free of flowering weeds



For additional tips, visit the National Allergy Bureau at www.aaaai.org/nab.

Bubble Rock Returns to the Garden: This summer, Sunday Kids Konzerts is returning. These are interactive Children's Concerts and are fun for the whole family. Plan on joining us July 27 and August 10. We encourage you to bring a picnic and a blanket. The garden will open at 4:00 p.m. for picnicking and the performance will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Riders on the Storm: Whether or not you consciously think about it, each day the weather affects you. We would like to share a website that will put you in constant contact with any atmospheric conditions in our locale. Simply visit the National Weather Service at www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox.