



Better Environments



CLCA COMPETITION, JULY 2008



Bennett Landscape was awarded first place in the 50th Annual Beautification Awards for the California Landscape Contractors Association Competition in the category of "Large Residential Landscape Renovation over \$50,000," for the Simpson Residence. Bennett Landscape was also awarded the Outstanding Achievement award for "Medium Commercial Maintenance, \$501-\$1000 per month," for 1100 Wilshire Boulevard Home Owner Association, Los Angeles. This is a privilege and an honor for the company. We want to thank all of you who contributed their properties for this prestigious occasion.

September 2008

Annuals:

- ✓ September into October is a good time to plant mums and pansies.
- ✓ They love the cooler weather.
- ✓ Most will come back in early spring to bloom again.
- ✓ They appreciate shade in the warmer regions.
- ✓ Mums like a little more sun than pansies.

Gardening Tips for September

Fall is a great time to plant trees, shrubs, bulbs, perennials, grass seed and sod. Plants that are planted in the fall enjoy cooler temperatures and ideal growing conditions that allow roots ample time to grow into the surrounding soil. Use starter plant fertilizer mix when planting and mulch to control the ground temperature and moisture. Be sure to water newly planted trees and shrubs and add about three inches of mulch around base of each plant.

Plants and trees that provide color and accents in the month of September include Beautyberry, Crape Myrtles, Cotton-easter, Viburnums, Hy-

pericum, Hydrangeas, Potentilla, Pyracantha, Butterfly Bush, Coreopsis, Scabiosa, Ornamental Grasses, Mums, Flowering Dogwood, Red Maple, and Red Oak, just to name a few. Allow your plants to finish the summer growth cycle in the normal manner—that means no heavy applications of fertilizer or excessive pruning. Both heavy fertilization and pruning encourage new growth. Right now the plants are anticipating the cooler weather and are going into a natural dormancy. Anything that disturbs this will weaken the plants for wintering and for display in the spring. New growth is also susceptible to injury should

you experience a sudden freeze. For every weed you pull now, you will get rid of what will be hundreds in the spring. Remove any diseased or infested plants as well. While doing a general cleanup, save seeds from your favorite self-pollinating flowers. Allow the flower heads to mature instead of dead-heading them. Collect the seeds and dry them on newspaper. Store them in glass jars in a cool, dark, and dry place until spring. This is also a good time to mark where your perennials are so you don't plant over them by mistake.

www.myrtlecreeknursery.com

Lawns:

- ✓ This is the best month to reseed your lawn.
- ✓ For best results, soak the lawn a day or two before you aerate or de-thatch your lawn.
- ✓ Now you can lime, fertilize and seed your lawn all in a day.
- ✓ If planning to use weed killers, do not seed for at least three weeks after applying the killer.

SELLABRATION:

November 1, 2008

Sellabration is Little Company of Mary's largest fundraiser of the year; a spectacular black-tie special event that has been held since 1975 for the dual purpose of bringing together friends and raising funds for LCM. It begins with a cocktail reception and an incredible silent auction, followed by a gourmet dinner, live band, dancing, and a live auction, featuring one-of-a-kind catered dinners, golf and sport fantasy packages and international

travel opportunities.

Proceeds from Sellabration create mini-sellabration in the lives of the most vulnerable members of the South Bay and Harbor communities. Little Company of Mary is committed to providing quality community outreach and patient care programs by welcoming all who need care.

Location: Under the Tent at the Inner Section of Hawthorne & Fashion Way.

Reservations: \$300

For details, contact Erin Harms at 310-303-5346

This Quarter's Report Card Winner

Carol Snyder is our lucky winner for this quarter's random drawing. She will receive three flats of seasonal color. Congratulations Carol, and keep sending in those report cards.

These report cards allow us the opportunity to manage your properties properly. We appreciate all of you who take the time to provide us with this pertinent information.

Again, congratulations Carol!

Vegetable Gardens, Shrubs & Trees

- During the Fall, you can still plant beets, radishes, turnips and leaf lettuce. Root crops can be left in the ground in the cooler climates and be dug up as needed—just apply mulch to prevent ground freeze.
- This is an excellent time, after harvesting your summer crops, to plant a cover crop of clover or soybeans to be dug under next spring. These plants produce nitrogen, providing good organic matter and food for your next spring crops. They will help control winter weeds as a bonus!
- Prune evergreens lightly now if you need to shape them. Save major pruning until early next year. Pruning stimulates new growth, which may not have time to harden off before winter. (www.myrtlecreeknursery.com)

“Mm, that smells good!” Fall is a good time for improving your garden soil by adding manure, compost and leaves to increase the organic matter content.

PERENNIALS AND BULBS

Plant spring-flowering bulbs now for the best chance of a brilliant spring display. Irises like to be planted now; daffodils towards the end of September, and Tulips in early October as the weather cools. Make sure you mulch to insulate the soil and keep the ground temperature warm enough for roots to establish themselves. As the weather

cools, you will want to pull back the mulch at the end of winter to discourage premature growth as the sun will warm the soil.

If you dig up bulbs to separate them into more plants or to protect the more tender bulbs from harsh winters, it should be done before your first frost. (www.myrtlecreeknursery.com)

Bennett Landscape will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, September 1, 2008. Have a relaxing holiday.

