GARDENS Four Seasons GARDENDESIGN

JUNE/JULY 2018

FIRE!

"The most tangible of all visible mysteries - fire"

- Leigh Hunt

(once more Mr. Hunt - a very true observation!)



Yep! - I have always been an advocate for including all elements - water, wind, soil & fire - when planning any landscape. Fire, itself is so very primal & draws man but as we all know, it must be used wisely & with great care.

Personally I love the scent of an open air bonfire - so warm & inviting on a cool summer's eve - whether in my yard or my neighbours! Backyard BBQs create a communal feeling & are such fun for get-togethers. However, some people have allergies & health issues related to smoke & their concerns should be considered as well as those that enjoy it.



Unfortunately there have been some citizens who have not been smart or thoughtful of others in their use of fire. So in order to mitigate issues surrounding open fires - On April 30, 2018 City Council passed *Bylaw* #9484 The Fire & Protective Services *Amendment Bylaw, 2018* to amend the existing Bylaw #7990 The Fire & Protective Services, 2001.

In a nutshell, the main points are:

- open air fires must occur in a non-combustible container made
 - of cement, brick or sheet metal (minimum 18 gauge thickness)
- the receptacle is to be covered with heavy gauge screen with openings not more than 1/2".
- the firebox cannot exceed 2' square
- you are not allowed to burn anything other than seasoned firewood or charcoal briquets.
- allotted use time is from 2pm 11pm
- fire cannot be within 10 feet of ANYTHING combustible



More details at:

https://www.saskatoon.ca/sites/default/files/documents/firedepartment/community-relations/firepitcard_web.pdf

However, I urge everyone to familiarize themselves with the bylaw details by clicking -

https://www.saskatoon.ca/services-residents/fire-emergency/ public-education/fire-pits The good news is that BBQ Grills, Smokers & Outdoor Pizza Ovens used for food preparation, Chimineas & Permanent Upright Fireplaces, built in accordance with the National Building Code of Canada, are not subject to the new time regulations (2pm- 11pm) in the amended Bylaw #9484, 2018.



Whether you consider the fire restrictions fair or not - Most of it is common sense, caution & consideration of nearby residents. Whenever I have a fire or entertain a larger gathering - I like to let my closer neighbours know what is occurring & when to expect it. (heck, they might even be invited! :)

For those outside the city - check the fire regulations in your particular RM, town or city.

Let's ALL get along & be good neighbours!

Outdoor fire increases the liveability & living space of your home. Here is a brief <u>list of points to consider when situating</u> your outdoor BBQ Grills, Smokers & Outdoor Pizza Ovens used for food preparation, Chimineas & Permanent Upright Fireplaces, all the while considering how the placement will affect your neighbours.:

1. As anyone who has battled forest or grass fires knows, wind direction can change on a dime. With that in mind, take note of the usual wind patterns in your yard. You may have a wide open space with not much protection from the elements or a sheltered area where the wind doesn't pose as much of an issue. Just try to pick the best location possible to temper the breeze while not causing the smoke & heat to affect you indoors.



2. Would you like to have a rooftop overhead to allow for use of the area when it rains or snows? Again - safety is paramount.



- 3. Speaking of Snow any outdoor kitchen must be constructed to endure our Winters if the plan is to use it year 'round.
- 4. Food preparation flames should be located as close to the house as reasonably & safely as possible in order to have less of a jaunt between both.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

LILY (Lilium)

One of the most tried & true flowers in our landscapes lilies offer a dizzying array of heights & colours. At this point in our Summer - they are offering their glory!

True Lilies are the Genus 'Lillium' They grow from bulbs & can reproduce from the base bulb or from 'bulbils' originating on the stems, depending on the variety.



- Lily bulbils

I've found there are 4 main types of lilies that do well in SK - Asiatic, Tiger or Martagon Lilies are fully hardy - while Oriental Lilies are semi-hardy. Orientals can be grown here but require pampering & may not survive thru' the Winter. I call them the 'Diva' of lilies since they are fragrant & showy - & a favourite of florists in part due to their long lasting blooms. The trick to identifying which are which - is to check the botanical names.

Oriental Lilies are classified as Lilium orientalis. All lilies show the variety name in quotation marks after the botanical term - ie: Lilium orientalis 'Stargazer'.



Asiatic Lilies are Lilium asiatica.





Lilium lancifolium is the latin name for **Tiger Lilies**.

(There is a quaint superstition that smelling a Tiger Lily will give you freckles - more fun for me with my grandbebe!) Martagon Lilies are known scientifically as Lilium martagon

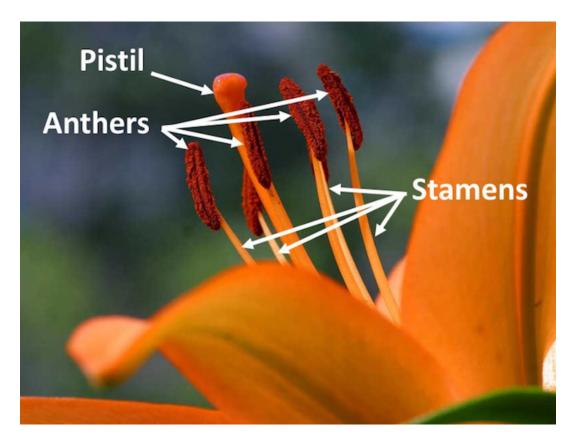


All Lily varieties are perfect for mixed borders. Taller ones look outstanding near or at the back. In fact they look even better with something a bit shorter in front to camouflage the bareness of the stems at their base. Smaller ones are great for foreground plantings or as stand alone specimens since the foliage is lower to the ground.

Blossoms occur normally in July or August & range from outward facing, upward or downward facing - such an array!

All but the Tigers require regular moisture & except for the Martagons need full, full sun.

(Note to myself - remember to transplant my Martagons into a shady space this Fall to free up precious space for more sun loving plants in my mostly shady yard!)



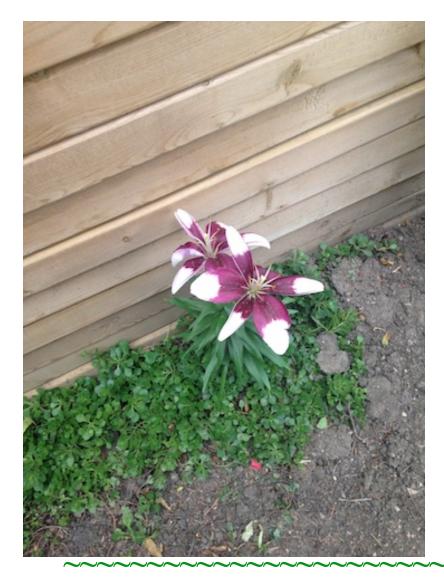
Finally - a fun fact about lily pollen:

Florists routinely clip off anthers (pollen filled tips of the stamens) so as to not cause clothing stains. If you have the misfortune of getting a pollen stain - do not worry! Simply remove the affected item of clothing & lay in the direct sunlight for 4 - 5 hours. The stain magically disappears! Keep in mind - this must be done prior to any washing - as THAT will permanently set the stain.

DESIGN BRILLIANCE

Nature has again shown how it is the ultimate in *"Design Brilliance"*.

Just when you think nothing can possibly grow in a spot (very



little sun, hard gumbo clay soil that has been tramped down hard & no water except for rainfall) up sprouts this darling

Asiatic lily that 'volunteered' (grew wild without having been planted) along the side of my house that is under construction.

Now THAT is tenacity & very unusual!

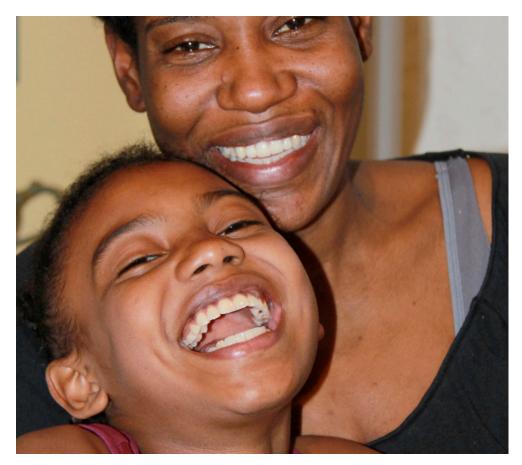
UPCOMING EVENTS

The NEST SECRET GARDEN TOUR

- returns on **Sunday, July 29, 2018** (1-5 pm) with eight landscapes on display. This is the ninth year for the popular self-guided garden tour that raises funds for Nest Saskatoon.
- Passport tickets are \$20 & may be purchased at McNally Robinson Bookstore, Dutch Growers on Central Ave & Anthology Home Decor on 20th Street.



This Garden Tour is **my favourite**! It not only supports an amazingly deserving cause but features un-juried properties that range from unusual to bizarre to thought provoking to downright relaxing - a very full afternoon! I usually never make it to all the yards because I find each one so scintillating! Not to be missed!



"Nest Saskatoon supports refugee settlement in the city. Formed in 1997, Nest is a volunteer group comprised of people who think globally & act locally. As the name suggests, Nest has worked to be a "home" or safe refugee for the newcomer families they sponsor."

https://nestsaskatoon.net

DESIGN your DREAM YARD!

The CLASS SCHEDULE for AUTUMN 2018 is now set!

Start Dates:

Tues. Oct. 2 -10am-noon or 6:30-8:30pm Thurs. Oct. 4 -10am-noon or 6:30-8:30pm Sat. Oct. 6 -10am-noon

BOOK EARLY to avoid disappointment! \$299 (Acreages \$399) – GST extra

More Info: https://www.gardensfourseasons.com/classes/



BACK ISSUES of FUN in your YARD?

Back in 2015 - I looked at ways to have FUN in your YARD & alluded to Meditation in the Garden as well!



Simply reply to this email with <u>FUN</u> & I will send it out to you directly!

I am very excited to cover **MEDITATION GARDENS** in the **Sept/Oct. GARDENDESIGN !**

I get more & more requests for this increasingly popular trend - awesome for any "Eden", whether you meditate or not!

At this mid-point of Summer - I wish you all my awesome readers - the finest Summer ever!

Feel free to forward this to any friends! (or they can email me to request their own copy!)

DID YOU KNOW? - I never, Ever, EVER share my email list - NEVER! :)

* to <u>UNSUBSCRIBE</u> from GARDENDESIGN please reply to this email with NO THANKS!