



Notes from

# HORNBAKER GARDENS

*"The Princeton Perennial People"*

22937 1140 N. Ave., Princeton, Illinois 61356

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(815) 659-3282

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www.hornbakergardens.com

## Daylilies Coming On Fast

The irises surprised us a bit, and came on more quickly than we expected. Then, the combination of heat, rains, and stormy weather shortened the bloom season even more. Now, the daylilies seem to be rushing toward bloom season. The heat and moisture have given them everything they could want, and buds have popped up all over the field. Whereas we usually figure that the daylily season runs from July 4 through the end of the month, this year it will definitely be starting during the last week or 10 days of June, and will run into the middle of July. Naturally, some of the later blooming varieties will still be blooming at the end of July.

**CLUMPS APLENTY:** Our daughter Molly has walked the daylily field and made decisions as to which

varieties we can afford to sell in clumps this year. She reports that, of the 500 varieties in the field, we can sell over 300 varieties in clumps. What that means is that, instead of ordering a start of a certain variety (to be dug later, in early August), you will also have the option to purchase a whole clump, which we will dig right away, drop it in a plastic bag, and send it home with you. The majority of our daylily sales last year were in clump form.

In some cases, the number of clumps available is very limited. However, after the big clumps are sold out, we may be able to sell a smaller clump or two at a negotiated price. So we'll be prepared to wheel and deal in the daylily field.

**OPEN JULY 5:** We will be open on



*Blooming already.*

Monday, July 5, which should find the daylilies in peak bloom.

## Fast Growing Birches

Customers are always looking for fast growing trees, but naturally don't want varieties that tend to have lots of broken branches, as so many fast growing trees do. Birches (*Betula*) can be a good choice that will satisfy both criteria.

'Heritage' River Birch is a quick grower that has glossy green foliage that turns yellow in the fall. It gets 40 feet tall, with a spread of 30 feet. The wonderful, exfoliating bark is a light tan, which adds year-round interest. We carry this tree

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## Open House Specials Continue

We have decided to leave many of the Open House specials in effect through daylily season. This includes several perennials (at 4.99), including all remaining potted irises (Siberian, Japanese, Yellow Flag), and peonies (40% off), including tree peonies and fernleaf peonies.

A few one-gallon hostas will

remain on sale, and four hosta clumps (Antioch, Christmas Tree, So Sweet, and Torchlight) will remain at half price.

**Trees and Shrubs:** With all this moisture in the ground, it is still a great time to plant trees and shrubs. All of the Open House specials on trees and shrubs will remain in effect. This includes 25% off all pines (except 'Taylor's Sunburst'), spruces, junipers, larches, hemlocks, birches, katsuras, lilacs, rhododendrons, and several other selected trees and shrubs. We usually wait until fall to put trees and shrubs on sale, but this is such a great spring for planting that we think that now is the time to move them out.

### RETAIL HOURS

We are open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 to 5:00. We are closed on Sundays. We will be open on Monday, July 5.

# We Install Ponds

Just a reminder that we do install ponds. Summer is the time to have your pond installed, while we still have our college guys available. Mike Sayler is the man to talk to. Mike will come to your place to help you locate and design the pond. He is also the leader of the crew which will return to do the actual installation.

Mike and his crew can install most ponds in one or two days. We provide the rock, and leave the area around the pond mulched and ready for you to landscape. Since so many of our customers come from such a distance, we do cover a large area, including the north half of Illinois, and the eastern edge of Iowa.



We install Aquascape ponds, which we are convinced are the best pond systems on the market. These ponds are designed to achieve a balanced ecosystem, which looks natural and controls algae with a minimum of labor by the pond owner.

For an education on ponds, come see our display ponds, and talk to Mike or Rich about how they operate.

# Fast Growing Birches

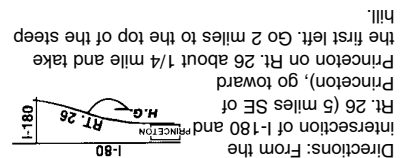
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in regular tree form and in clump form.

'Whitespire' is a Japanese White Birch with whitish tan bark. It is resistant to borers, and grows to 40 feet, with a spread of 20-30 feet. We also have this tree in single tree form and in clump form. Clumps have a wider spread than single trees, as the stems in the clump tend to grow away from each other, reaching for sunlight.

The third Birch that we carry is the Paper Birch (*Betula papyrifera*) in clump form. It has chalky white bark, and dark green foliage which turns yellow in the fall. The Paper Birch offers greater resistance to the birch borer than European White Birch. It grows up to 50 feet tall, with a spread of 35 feet.

All of these Birches will remain at 25% off while supplies last.



**GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**



We accept

Princeton, Illinois 61356

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