



www.hornbakergardens.com  
 email: mail@hornbakergardens.com  
 22937 1140 N. Ave., Princeton, Illinois 61356  
 (815) 659-3282

## Late Iris Season?

Given the cool weather that we had in April, we expect the iris season to run a little late this year. The last half of May is typically the peak of the season, so the end of the bloom season may run into June a bit this year. A lot depends on how much heat we get in the next two weeks. A couple of early, short, SDBs were blooming by the end of April, but last year they were blooming by April 20. We will update the progress of the iris bloom on the blog on our website.

Our expanded hours will allow you to come out and see the irises in the cool of the evenings and on Sundays. And we will be open on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30, which should find the irises in peak bloom.

For those of you who have never purchased irises from us, a short explanation is in order. We take orders for the irises here in the spring. Customers walk through the field during bloom time and select the varieties they wish to order. The orders are placed and paid for now, and we dig the orders in July, usually a few days after July 4. We can ship the iris rhizomes to you, or you can pick them up. Most of our customers pick up their orders in July so that they can see the daylily field blooming at that time.



Yaquina Blue

## Open House June 10, 11 And 12

Our twenty-fourth annual Open House and Hosta Walk will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 10, 11 and 12. The hostas should be looking great at that time. Refreshments will be served, and drawings for prizes will be held each day. We will also have a selection of specially priced plants, including a good selection of hostas. Look for specials on some of our Shop items. You never know what we might decide to feature. The Open House specials list will be available on our website by June 9th.



Succulent Container

## Sensational Succulents

We have expanded our selection of succulents this year, and we are in love with these little cuties! Succulent containers can be enjoyed outdoors as well as indoors, and their low water requirement makes them very easy to care for. We have several containers already potted up, or we can help you create one of your own. Molly posted an album on our Facebook page with some excellent pictures that she took of succulents in our greenhouse.





Fairy Garden

## Fairy Gardens Galore

The staff is all excited about the fairy garden accessories that Molly found and ordered in this spring. I can't believe that I am writing enthusiastically about fairy gardens, but I must admit that these cute little accessories are fun to play with. The picture here shows a fairy garden in a special fairy garden box, but you can get creative with all sorts of containers, or even make a fairy garden in a special spot right in the ground.

Available mini accessories include houses, furniture, arbors, trellises, fences, critters, birds' nests, birds' eggs, sculptures, flower pots, fairy garden boxes, and probably some more I can't remember.

Plants help complete the setting. Choose plants that will stay small and not grow too quickly. Succulents work really well. Ask the gals in our greenhouses to help you pick out some plants for your fairy garden.

## Upcoming Workshops

Don't forget the workshops that we have on tap:

**Herbs for Cooking, Beverages and Potpourri**—Thursday, May 12, at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 14, at 1:30 p.m. with Charon Freeberg, our Lady of the Greenhouse.



Kathy O'Malley

**Kathy O'Malley on Color in the Garden without Flowers**—Saturday, May 14, at 10:00 a.m. with our favorite former WGN radio personality!

**Pondless Waterfall Installation**—Thursday, May 19, at 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 21, at 10 a.m. with David Hornbaker.

**Bubbler Installation**—Thursday, May 26, at 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 28, at 10:00 a.m. with David Hornbaker.

**Cut Flower Arranging**—Thursday, June 2, at 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, June 4, at 10:00 a.m. with David Hornbaker.

**Pruning Perennials**—Thursday, June 9, at 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, June 11, at 10:00 a.m. with our former head gardener, Jane Morris.

## Updated Website, Blog, and Facebook, too!

We've done an overhaul of our website to give it a modern, clean look and to make it even more user-friendly. The new site includes a blog, where we have posted several informative articles. For example, the first blog post was an article on pruning hydrangeas. The different types of hydrangeas require different approaches to pruning, so you need to know how to prune the types you have. To find the helpful articles that we have posted, and will continue to post, bookmark our blog or visit "Gardening Help" under the Resources tab on our website.

And, for you Facebook fans, we now have a Facebook presence. "Like us" to get our latest postings!

## Retail Hours

Through July 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5:00 p.m. We will be closed on Monday, July 4. From July 11 through October 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and we will be closed on Sundays.