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## Open House June 11, 12, And 13



Our annual Open House and Hosta Walk will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, June 11, 12, and 13. The hostas should be looking great at that time. Refreshments will be served, and drawings for prizes will be held each day. We are excited to welcome our local Princeton Jaycees on Friday (11-2 and 4-7) and Saturday (11-2) serving sandwiches

hot off the grill. We also have Cows Coffee here on Friday with their fantastic coffee trailer.

We will 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 10.

Again this year, enjoy extended hours on Friday night from 5-7 p.m. We are referring to these evening hours as the Friday Night Sip and Stroll. Enjoy beer, wine and grilled sandwiches while strolling through the gardens and checking out our Open House Specials.

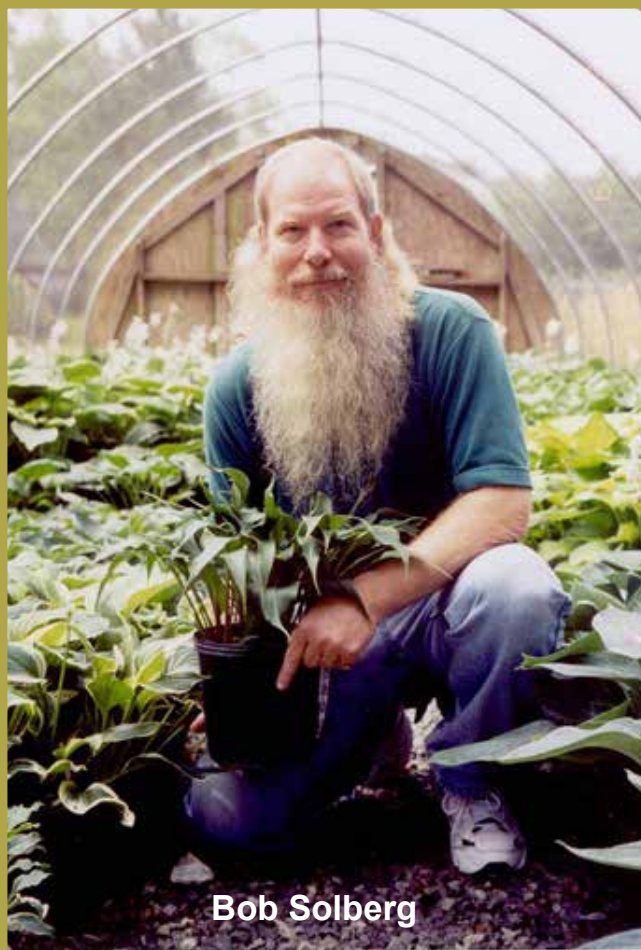
**Garden center open late.  
 Sip and Stroll on Friday, May 28,  
 Friday, June 4 and Friday, June 11  
 from 4-7 p.m.**

**HOURS:** Through July 12, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm, and Sunday Noon to 5 pm. From July 13 through October 10, we will be open Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm, and we will be closed on Sundays.



**ARTISAN MARKET**  
 on September  
 18<sup>th</sup> from  
 10 am to 4 pm.





**Bob Solberg**

# Hostas! Prizes! Contests!



We are very fortunate to be hosting one of the top hosta experts in the country, Bob Solberg, here at our event center on Sunday, July 18th. This free event will be a unique opportunity to hear from someone who eats, sleeps, and breathes hostas. After graduating from college with a B.S. in Biology in 1973, Bob did graduate work in Botany at UNC in Chapel Hill, NC. He established Green Hill Farm, Inc. in North Carolina as a hosta nursery in 1981, and has been introducing great new hostas ever since. In fact, he has introduced nearly 100 new varieties of hostas.

Bob's presentation on growing hostas in containers will happen at 11 am and 1 pm. He will also be available throughout the day in the garden center to chat about all things hosta. Registration is required online at [www.hornbakergardens.com](http://www.hornbakergardens.com) or give us a call. You can sign up for a boxed lunch if you are interested. The garden center will be open from 9 am to 5 pm that day with \$2 off all hostas.

For those attending the presentations, we will have door prizes and other fun happenings including a photo contest. To participate, you can share your favorite photo from the day on our Facebook or Instagram page. The deadline to post will be Monday, July 19th by 10:00 p.m. On Tuesday, we will choose our favorite photo and the winner will receive a Bob Solberg hosta introduction. We will also have a floral arrangement contest. To participate, bring a floral arrangement featuring one or more hosta leaves for a chance to win a selection of three mini hostas. This will be a fun and relaxing day to learn more about this beautiful plant we all





## *‘Little King’ Birch Trees*

The Missouri Botanical Gardens has a beautiful planting of several ‘Little King’ dwarf river birches. We copied that, on a smaller scale, with these three trees which are planted along the stream in the front yard. ‘Little King’ is a dwarf that only grows to around 10’-12’ tall and wide. It is typically grown as a multi-stemmed tree. The light tan bark exfoliates at a young age, and is the feature of this tree that really attracts one’s attention.

We planted these three trees four or five years ago as small, 7-gallon trees. They have grown nicely. Each year, we continue to “limb up” the trees (remove lower

branches) to expose the bark on the trunks. They are certainly attractive during the day, but are downright spectacular at night with the landscape lighting shining up through them.

Only one of the growers we buy from grows ‘Little King’, and supply always seems to be limited, especially in smaller sizes. But we were recently able to get some nice larger plants in #25 pots. They are the same size as those growing in our gardens. They run \$398, but you’re getting instant gorgeous and saving several years of growing. We have even started the process of limbing them up for you. Check ‘em out.

