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 Carden Café

By Jackie Weiss, Linton's Enchanted Gardens Centre Manager

#### Common plant issues include:

Yellowing: When the leaves of your plants have turned yellow it could be a sign of over watering.

Spindly: If the growth is weak or spindly, the plant may not be getting enough light.

Dried Leaf Tips: Could mean its too cold or not enough water

Wilting: If you've watered and the plant is still wilted, the roots could be rotting from too much water.

Everyone with a green thumb, and even those who's thumb 'needs a little work' can grow plants indoors. Houseplants sometimes known as tropicals, not only add beauty and decorative accents, they also keep the air in your home clean! They bring the inside of the house alive with color and blooms, and also add a certain kind of energy.

Houseplants

Choosing just the right plant can sometimes be tricky. Evaluate the light and temperature conditions. Consider the amount of light that the plant will get, how much humidity or lack of there is, and what the temperature be in your home? Linton's Enchanted Gardens has a wide variety of tropical houseplants to choose from and the knowledgeable staff can help you choose which plant would thrive in your homes environment.

Plant a houseplant in a pot that has a drainage hole. If the water has no where to drain out of the pot, the soil will remain too moist and will end up rotting the roots and killing the plant. If you've chosen a cactus or maybe succulent, then the potting soil must contain sand or gravel to allow for a quicker drainage. These plant do not like sitting in water at all! If you have a lovely container without drainage, grow your houseplant in a plastic pot that has one or more drainage holes and set it on gravel inside the decorative planter.

When your plant needs repotting, do not transplant it into a container more than two inches wider, because moving the plant into too big of a pot would slow down the growth rate. Be sure to loosen the roots gently and cut out any dead or damaged roots, and use a clean pot and fresh soil.

Knowing when to water seems to be the biggest issue with houseplants. The best practice is to make sure the whole root ball receives moisture. Instead of pouring water on top of the soil, put the plant in the tub and water the soil thoroughly several times until water runs freely from the drainage hole. Let it sit for a while to make sure all the excess moisture has drained, then put the plant back in place. Always use room temperature water. Not even plants like cold baths! It's impossible to tell how often to water as, there are so many variables including room temperature, humidity, or dry air in the home, amount of light, and air flow. The best way to know if your plant needs water is to use the 'knuckle' available in the Secret Garden at Linton's Enchanted Gardens. Water meters can be inserted into the soil down to the root of the plant and will give an accurate reading of the moisture level.

test. Stick your index finger in the

soil down to the second knuckle.

if the soil feels damp, no need to

water! If you are concerned about

your manicure, water meters are

Humidity is also your houseplants

best friend. Most houseplants are native to tropical regions and grow freely in rainforests where humidity is a staple. Misting your plant daily will make it feel more at 'home' and keep it healthy.

East or West windows offer great light exposure for most plants, but there are plants that will thrive in lower light. Grow lights can also be used in the areas of your home that you want to display plants but do not have the required light.

Pests can be a real problem. It seems when you own a houseplant eventually you will own pests like aphids, white flies, mealy bugs, etc. But with a little care, even the pests can be controlled. Linton's carries a variety of insecticides that can help combat pest problems.



# **Perk Up Your Porch**





**SEASONAL DÉCOR:** Did you know Linton's can decorate your home's interior to reflect the season? Whether it is Spring, Summer, Fall or Winter, let our design team create an indoor living space that is as unique as you! As always, our initial visit is complimentary.



OVER 100 DECORATED THEMED TREES,

featuring over 10,000 unique ornaments from which to select.

#### And they're all on sale!

## Host your party here!

Planning a special event? Let us be your venue. Linton's Enchanted Gardens is the perfect venue for Garden Club meetings, Red Hat Society outings, bridal showers and baby showers! We offer a unique and cozy setting in our Garden Café or The Conservatory for events of all kinds, featuring breakfast, lunch or dinner from our Garden Café. We offer over 100 hand crafted specialty drinks and decadent desserts! Your guests will enjoy perusing our numerous themed vignettes featuring seasonal interior and exterior decor.

For more information or reservations call 574-293-9699, ext. 111

#### Winter Seminars

Saturday mornings are a great time to come to Linton's Enchanted Gardens to learn about decorating indoors and outdoors. Please call our office for reservations and we will have a chair just for you! You may also email your reservation to jenn@lintons.com. Our seminar schedule is on our website: Lintons.com. We would love for you to come!

#### NOVEMBER

1.0012.00		
/ 4	l Oam	Sit & Sip– Tea and coffee sampling
	Noon	Tablescape ideas for Thanksgiving & New Years.
/2	l Oam	Edible Holiday Décor- Decorating your table & home with food.
	Noon	Decking your Halls- Learn tips for Holiday decorating from the pros
11/28	l Oam	Creating a themed Christmas tree
	Noon	Create your own front porch Holiday welcome pot. \$20 + cost of container, or bring your own. Bow will be supplied.
DECEMB	ER	
12/5	l Oam	Evergreen wreaths workshop \$20, includes materials. Bring your own wire cutters.
	Noon	Make your door inviting- Learn from our designers
12/12	l Oam	Feed & care for our feathered friends during the winter.
	Noon	Creating a mini Christmas tree and lasting memories. Lunch and workshop for two people. Cost \$10 + cost of materials. Perfect for children and adult quali-
		two people. Cost \$10 + cost or materials. Perfect for children and adult quali- ty time!
12/19	l Oam	Winter style & fashion event

Winter Special Events			
Date	Event		
Wednesday & Thursday, November 4 & 5	Red Carpet Open House/ Christmas in 3D!		
Saturday & Sunday, November 7 & 8	Christmas Open House/ Christmas in 3D!/ Santa Pictures (see ad for details)		
Thursday, November 19	Design & Dine 5:45–7pm 'Holiday Porch Pot'		
/7,  /8  /2 ,  /27,   /28, 2/5, 2/ 2, 2/ 9	Pictures with Santa (see ad for details)		
/ 4	Pets only Pictures with Santa (see ad for details)		
Saturday, November 28	Small Business Saturday Mystery Discount Tree (see ad for details)		
Thursday, December 10	Design & Dine 5:45– 7pm 'Twine Snowman'		

PET \* Free ^ pictures \* with Santa! Saturday, Nov. 14th 10am - 4pm

> Bring your camera and donate one dog-food item per pet in the picture

All donations go to the Humane Society of Elkhart County



Northbrook Collection Specialty Exclusive. Featured: Northbrook Collection Satchel in Plum

Vera Bradley



You should have received Linton's Enchanted Gardens Red Carpet Open House

your invitation by now. We look forward to seeing you at this exclusive event! Wed. & Thurs., Nov. 4 & 5

### **Botanically Correct Christmas Trees**

Once again, Linton's Enchanted Gardens will offer our popular collection Sof permanent Christmas trees for 2015. This collection of Christmas trees look so realistic they're guaranteed to fool Santa himself! These trees range rom miniature 6" table top trees up to 7' tall, and imitate nature, combining The beauty of a fresh cut tree with the convenience of silk that will last for Many years to come. We will be offering many of the table size trees already decorated, including the lights. These make the perfect gift for grandparents, college dorm rooms, as well as for kids! We have expanded our sizes and styles and our undecorated table top trees start out at only \$4.99!

Come see our large selection of Fresh Cut Christmas Trees, Fresh Garland and Fresh Wreaths!



### Polar Express and Free Pictures with Santa!

📿 anta takes time away from his toy-making duties to be available for our customers! We'll provide the perfect setting for a photo. Santa will visit and you can bring your camera and non-perishable food items for donation to a local food bank. It's a win-win situation! You get a great picture and wonderful memory and help those in need of assistance in our community!

Cookie Decorating onlv 99¢ Kids can



decorate a cookie every weekend during the month of December for only 99¢.

### (Santa's schedule:

Saturday November 7th 10am-4pm Sunday November 8th 10am-4pm Saturday November 14th 10am- 4pm (Pet Photos only) Saturday November 21st 10am-4pm Friday November 27th 10am-4pm Saturday November 28th 10am-4pm Saturday December 5th 10am-4pm Saturday December 12th 10am-4pm Saturday December 19th 10am-4pm





Train Rides \$3.99

Valid only Dec 1 - Dec 31, 2015

# **Mr. Smarty Plants**

#### Mr. Smarty - Winter 2015 Dear Mr. Smarty Plants, After last year's long bitter cold, several things in our yard suffered or died. Help me plan a scene that looks good all year long, even in Winter? - Signed, Seasonal Blues

Enjoy your garden year round with a well-designed plan for the "fourth season". The best defense against winter kill is to select cold-tolerant, hardy plants that can take local conditions. Consider your view from indoors. Decide which of the surviving plants you want to keep, remove the rest and start fresh.

An effective Winter Garden is a study of stark contrast and visual drama. Many plants are stunning with late Fall coloration of leaves, dried flowers, berries or seed heads. Enjoy the warm shades of gold, umber, and tan of dried grasses. Against a background of dark evergreens, they'll catch the snow in interesting & delightful displays. Keep the leafy, upper foliage materials on perennials to provide Winter-time blankets for growing crowns at ground level. Variation of visual levels within the garden space to add dimension in a late year scene. Be appropriate in mulch depth and type used to discourage rodent damage. An artistic trellis provides focus when stripped of leafy material come Fall. Rustic fences or walls protect plants from drying wind or cold, and catch snow in neatly repetitive patterns.

Deciduous trees also provide basic Winter time garden structure. Strong-textured, flaky, or peeling bark provides color too, from warm greys and silvers to lush russet brown. Weeping or contorted shrubs become artistic focal points in the late season yard. Shrubs with red, yellow, or coral bark always perk up a snow covered scene. Especially on those bright, sunny days!

Increased day length stimulates a slow, steady return to normal growth patterns for plants. Dressed for the cold, many Spring bloomers use their elegant bud coverings that contain hormones to inhibit blossoms from opening until Winter's dangers have passed. Don't rush to remove protection you have placed in Fall, but gradually remove it come Spring. Plants will transpirate (lose moisture) even during the slowed metabolism of Winter conditions, so water as needed, during warm up periods. Here's a fun list to help you build a Winter garden: Paper-bark Maple, Bar Harbor or Andorra Juniper, Russian Cypress, Roses, Coneflowers, shrub Dogwoods, Weeping Cherry, Contorted Hazelnut, Holly, Winterberry, Snowberry. Talk to your professional designer for other ideas.

