

# Linton's Leaflet

Spring 2015

Landscaping

Lawn Care

Nursery | Garden Centre

Floral & Interior Décor Shoppe

Garden Café

newsletter volume 21/ issue 1

## ROOM TO GROW

By Mark Linton

One way to get your kids interested in eating their veggies, is to get them excited about gardening and growing them in your own back yard! Start out with equipping your child with the proper gardening gloves, hat and kid sized gardening tools. Be sure to protect their skin as well!

Explain the planting and growing process to them, and have a calendar so that you can document the growth of the plants up until harvest time. Gardening can be just as fun for kids as it is for adults, even if it seems that certain children don't have the patience or perseverance to watch plants grow from seeds to maturity. Working with the right kind of plants may be the key to igniting a love of gardening in children.

Choosing seeds that sprout quickly can help hold the attention of children who are new to gardening. Some of the faster growing seeds are beans, peas, and bell peppers, along with many of the leafy vegetables, such as chard, lettuce, spinach and mustard. These seeds can start to grow and germinate in just a few days. Fast growing herbs are also recommended, such as basil and parsley.

Edible plants often make good choices for children because they can reap the rewards of their efforts. Allow your children to sprinkle fresh picked herbs onto their food, or encourage them to help prepare the harvested vegetables for the family meal. This way kids can show pride in their accomplishments, especially if they show up on the dinner plate!

Seeds don't necessarily need to be grown in the ground, and can be planted in containers. I love to use transparent containers with my daughter, which allows her to watch and monitor the root growth. I also suggest that once the seedlings grow larger, they be transplanted either into larger



containers or outdoors.

I can remember when I was a kid, my Mom had me growing seeds on top of sponges, soaked in water. I was amazed with the results, and sparked my interest in gardening at a very young age!

A love of gardening that's fostered inside can also be explored outdoors. Set aside a plot of land where your kids can sow their own seeds and tend their own gardens. As a kid, my brother and sister, along with myself all had our own gardens, and we were in competition with each other to see who could grow things the best.

I still have great family memories of gardening, and appreciate what my Mom and Dad instilled into me!



# Flutterbies!

By Jackie Weiss,  
Garden Centre Manager

Attracting butterflies is fast becoming a popular gardening habit. Not only do they add beauty to the garden, but they are fun to watch and it is interesting to learn about each of the species.

Attracting butterflies is not difficult at all. In fact, if you are already gardening then, you more than half way there. You just need to install the right kind of plants to your garden and 'voila'! You'll begin seeing more and more butterflies! First you will need to make sure you have some native plants in your gardens, butterflies depend on many natives both for food and reproduction. Some of the natives such as Milkweeds and Queen Anne's Lace are considered weeds by many but are actually quite pretty. Others are considered normal landscape essentials, such as, Red Maples, Maidenhair Ferns, Columbine, and False Indigo.

Like hummingbirds, butterflies are attracted to the color red, but also orange, pink, yellow and purple. Be sure to plant perennials and annuals featuring these colors, so that you will always have butterfly visitors.

Butterflies sun themselves in the morning to warm up their wings for flight. Be sure to place several flat rocks throughout the garden. Also, butterflies drink and digest minerals in a process called 'puddling'. Just make a slight depression in the ground, (even a shallow pan works) fill it with sand, and keep it moist. We've all seen butterflies congregate around mud puddles. This is what they are doing: drinking and pulling essential minerals out of the soil.

Following is a list of some of the plants that will attract, feed and incubate butterflies:

Lupines	Alliums	Pansies
Parsley	Dill	Fennel
Rue	Willow	Azalea
Milkweeds	Locust	Wisteria
Bee Balm	Butterfly Bush	False Indigo
Lavender	Lilac	Shasta Daisy
Coreopsis	Coneflowers	Daylily
Petunia	Geraniums	Phlox
Celosia	Vinca	Impatiens
Dahlia	Queen Anne's Lace	
Large leaved Viburnums		



## Floral Trends

By Ruth Linton

Tired of waiting for Spring? For the snow to melt, for the flowers to bloom? If so, then get ahead start on Mother Nature and bring a touch of color and Spring into your home. Without detailed instructions, a novice can easily speed up Spring and cuttings of flowering trees and shrubs into an early performance in your home. Trimmings of flowering Cherry, Forsythia, Dogwood and others can bloom in about 3 weeks inside your home. These freshly cut branches really only require about 6 weeks of cold beauty sleep and, when cut and brought inside, can give your home a bright Spring look.

A single cut Magnolia flower placed in a clear bowl can be very dramatic. Tall branches can add a lot of color when placed in an otherwise dark corner.

This procedure of getting plants to flower out of season is known as 'forcing'. Cut branches on a late, mild winter day, with temperatures above freezing. Try to cut or trim the branches without disfiguring the plant. It is always best to cut at an angle and then place the cuttings in a container with floral preservative. Put the container in a cool area until the buds start to swell or pop. Once blooming indoors, even though the exterior landscape is frozen, the fragrant spirit of Spring will lift those 'winter doldrums.'

## Rainy Day Sale

Visit us the next time the heavens pour liquid sunshine! Shop in the comfort of our Interior Decor Shoppe or Conservatory! When our Rainy Days Flag is flying, save 10% on purchases from the Garden Centre! We have umbrellas for you to use as you stroll through our gardens. Visit our website, rain or shine, at [Lintons.com](http://Lintons.com).

©2014 Vera Bradley Designs, Inc.

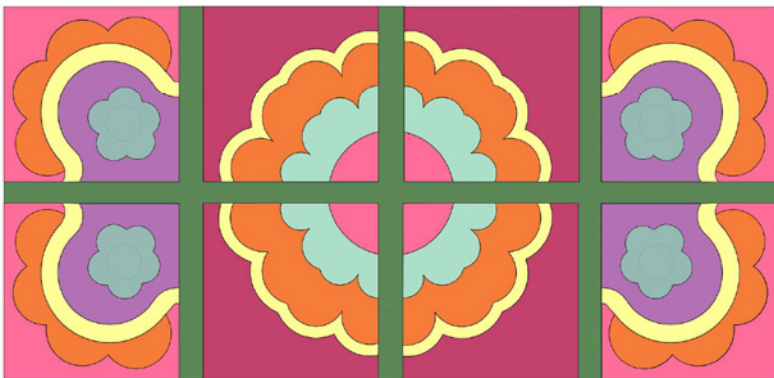


## New Arrivals

Stop in soon  
to see what's new!

Featured: Small Trimmed Vera  
in Lucky Dots with Navy Trim,  
Bucket Crossbody in Classic Navy,  
Laser-Cut Crossbody in Navy/White Geo  
and Flap Crossbody in Lucky Stripe

Vera Bradley



## Quilt Garden

Linton's is pleased to be an official stop on the Quilt Gardens along the Heritage Trail.

The 2015 "Pink Swirls of Hope" Quilt Garden is Linton's Enchanted Gardens contribution to this year's Elkhart County Quilt Garden Tour. Linton's was selected to be the site for this special garden, which recognizes breast cancer victims nationwide. Intended to provide inspiration and hope to cancer patients, their families and friends, may all visitors to this year's garden take uplifting thoughts with them.

Our Quilt Garden this year features a design plan based on the Pink Swirls of Hope fabric pattern. This fabric pattern is incorporated into a quilt created by Connie Kauffman, and will be offered as the prize for the yearly raffle fundraiser sponsored by Linton's Enchanted Gardens. The quilt can be seen inside the Interior Decor Shoppe at Linton's, and raffle tickets are only \$5.00 each. The colors of the quilt are reflected in the plant selections: 'Titan Punch' Magenta Vinca, 'Sunshine Prism' yellow Petunia, deep orange 'Janie' Marigold, Dusty Miller 'New Look' pale green, 'Madness Pink' Petunia, 'Dark Opal' purple Basil. We welcome your comments! Raffle Tickets can be purchased inside at the cashier desk.



## Experience the growing difference in lawn care

Linton's lawn care team has the experience you can trust to carefully inspect and manage the health of your landscape, trees, and shrubs. Many services are available: mowing, fertilizing, pruning, trimming and weeding, along with disease and insect control.

We perform spring cleanups, lawn de-thatching, overseeding and lawn aeration, as well as planting of annual flower beds. During the summer, we provide power edging, line trimming, aeration and over-seeding and turf renovation. Fall clean up, bulb planting and gutter cleaning are offered.

Additional winter services include snow plowing, salting sidewalks and drives, and installing outdoor Christmas lights and decorations.

Our maintenance program provides an alternative for homeowners who want a beautiful yard and yet want to enjoy their leisure time. Business owners use our services to keep a well-maintained landscape, adding professionalism to their company.



# Spring Fling

**Saturday & Sunday  
May 2nd & 3rd**

**Save**  
**50% to 75% off**

Select items in our Garden Centre.

---

*Annual Flowers*  
**Locally Grown Flats**

**\$9.99**  
(5 or more)

---

Floral & Interior  
Décor Shoppe

**Yellow Tag Savings up to  
90% off**

**FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**



**LINTON'S EXPRESS**  
Train Rides \$3.99

SWAN PADDLE BOAT  
PEDAL TRAIN  
SHOOTING GALLERY  
WATER ORBS • GEM MINING  
FREE KIDS KORNER  
& PETTING ZOO!

**FREE SAMPLES IN  
OUR GARDEN CAFE**

**AN EVENT LIKE NO OTHER!**

315 CR 17 (at Beck Drive)  
teleflora • ELKHART  
574/293-9699 • Lintons.com  
Mon.-Fri. 8-7 • Sat. & Sun. 8-6

**ENCHANTED  
GARDENS**



**Linton's**  
Quality & Excellence



# Linton's will be kicking off our Spring season with the addition of five new attractions.



SWAN PADDLE BOAT



WATER ORBS



GEM STONE MINING



ENCHANTED GARDENS EXPRESS

Train Rides  
Only \$3.99



HAND PEDAL TRAIN



HEN HOUSE HOEDOWN  
SHOOTING GALLERY

Two new water attractions will be a Swan Paddle boat and Water Orbs. The 8' Water Orbs are designed to be inflated with a person inside, and will allow you to "walk on water". The swan paddle boat is large enough to accommodate 4 persons at the same time.

Another new attraction is the St. Joseph River Mining Company's Gem Stone Mining. This allows the visitor to experience what it was like to pan for gemstones and fossils in a western themed setting complete with a sluice. The visitor purchases a bag of 'rough' and uses the sluice and water to expose the gemstones. The attraction includes a gemstone identification chart. Bags of 'rough' start at only \$5.99.

Last year, Linton's introduced the Enchanted Gardens Express, a 15 minute narrated train ride around the 9 acre facility. This Spring, another train has been added! A hand pedal train and track has been installed for kids of all ages to propel themselves around a train track.

Inside the facility Linton's guests will discover our new interactive Hen House Hoedown shooting gallery. Participants will be thrilled and amused as they "shoot" at moving targets and see the show that is put on by themed animatronics. The shooting gallery was custom made and themed for Linton's Enchanted Gardens. Guests may select from using either a pistol or rifle to shoot at the targets. Games start at only \$2.00.

Linton's guests may purchase individual tickets for only \$3.99 each or a combo pass is only \$11.99 for all four attractions. A season pass with unlimited use is offered for only \$19.99.

## *Help Save Mother Earth*

Every year, millions of nursery pots are used once, then hauled away to the landfill. By recycling pots we can all do our part to help Mother Earth. Customers will be rewarded with 5 cents per container (1 gallon or larger) returned to us. We don't even mind if the container was purchased elsewhere.

## *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 are! As always, our initial visit is complimentary.

# Linton's Special Events for 2015

Saturday & Sunday	May 2 & 3
Saturday & Sunday	May 9 & 10
Saturday- Monday	May 23- 25
Saturday & Sunday	June 6 & 7
Saturday & Sunday	June 13 & 14
Saturday & Sunday	June 20 & 21
Saturday & Sunday	June 27 & 28
Saturday & Sunday	July 11 & 12
Saturday & Sunday	July 18 & 19
Saturday & Sunday	August 1 & 2
Saturday & Sunday	August 15 & 16
Saturday & Sunday	August 22 & 23
Saturday- Monday	Sept. 5-7
Saturday & Sunday	September 12 & 13
Saturday & Sunday	September 19 & 20
Saturday & Sunday	September 26 & 27
Saturday & Sunday	October 3 & 4
Saturday & Sunday	October 10 & 11
Saturday & Sunday	October 17 & 18
Saturday & Sunday	November 7 & 8
Friday	November 27
Saturdays	11/7, 11/14, 11/21 11/28, 12/5, 12/12, 12/19
Saturday	November 28

Our Spring Fling  
 Mother's Day Extravaganza  
 Memorial Day Sale: Red White & Bloom!  
 Spring Carnival Days  
 Pirate Adventure  
 Father's Day Sale  
 Luau Weekend  
 Wheel of Savings Weekend  
 Dog Days of Summer  
 Kids are a BIG Deal!  
 Big Pink Weekend  
 All Aboard for C.A.P.S.  
 Labor Day Sale  
 Birthday Party- 33 years!  
 Fall Carnival Days  
 Fall Festival  
 Fall Festival  
 Fall Festival  
 Christmas Open House/ Santa Pictures  
 Pictures with Santa  
 Pictures with Santa  
  
 Small Business Saturday-  
 Mystery Discount Tree!

## New at Linton's! Design & Dine!

Thursday, June 18th, 5:45pm- 7:00pm

Enjoy a delicious meal, then complete a project to take home.

\$29.99 per person includes dinner, instruction & materials.

Dinner features soup, sandwich and choice of coffee or soft drink from our Garden Café.

This month's project will be a canvas painting.

See a sample of the design on our Facebook page.

### 2015 Design and Dine Dates and Projects:

Thurs. 7/16/15 Air Planter

Thurs. 9/17/15 Leafcasting

Thurs. 10/22/15 Pumpkin Painting

Thurs. 11/19/15 Porch Pot

Thurs. 12/10/15 Twine Snowman

## Linton's Hours

Monday -Friday 8:00am - 7:00pm | Saturday & Sunday 8:00am - 6:00pm

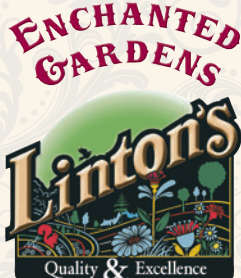
### CLIP & SAVE CAFÉ SPECIAL



**KIDS! BRING IN YOUR  
REPORT CARD  
FOR A FREE COOKIE  
AND DRINK.**

ANY CHILD WHO HAS A'S AND B'S ON  
THEIR REPORT CARD WILL GET A FREE  
COOKIE AND A DRINK.

One coupon per person. Not valid with any  
other offers. Expires June 4, 2015.



### CLIP & SAVE

## MIXED IRIS

(1 gallon)

## FREE WITH PURCHASE

Valid May 4 to June 4, 2015  
Supplies Limited. Limit 1.



**ENCHANTED  
GARDENS**



\$8.99 value.

IRISMIX#01+01 & + 03

# Mr. Smarty Plants

**Dear Mr. Smarty - What can I do to help damaged plants in my yard now that this harsh Winter is nearing an end? Wind and bitter cold dehydrated a lot of things.**

**Signed - Ready to regenerate**

*Dear Gen,*

*There are several causes of the condition known as Winterburn. Loss of moisture can be caused by drying winds that hit a poorly placed plant. Lack of mulch promotes evaporative soil moisture loss also, and lack of snowcover can cause the ground to freeze too deeply. Warmer, sunny days suck moisture from plant leaves and evergreen needles that cannot be easily replaced by cold roots in the frozen soil. Newly planted juveniles or things planted too late are more likely to suffer, as are very old plants. First, look for signs that the plant has truly survived. Limber twigs that easily flex or bend are alive. Brittle twigs that break off are dead. Before buds emerge, gently scratch through a twig's bark. Green tissue beneath means Springtime success is on the way! Stems of plants awakening from dormancy slowly change color. In many plants, browns begin showing burgundy, then gradually turn greenish. Perennials get central growth at ground level as green shoots emerge. Rose stems green up. Patience pays off, so don't give up too early or rush recovery. Even experienced gardeners have been fooled, then pleasantly surprised! Once snow melts and the ground has thawed, add a balanced slow release fertilizer for evergreens. Check soil moisture and water slowly, gradually replacing lost water to the plant. Prune off dead parts and dried foliage. Worry less about shaping now, tackle that later on, once foliage has flushed out and shape becomes more apparent. If more than 50% of a plant has died, consider replacement with a more suitable, new choice. Make notes of local conditions in your yard - wind direction, hours of sunlight, hardscapes, and heat vents on buildings that may have caused the issue. Consult your garden center plant professional to find more resilient replacements. Some Zone 5 Plants that can take a harsh winter are: Peony, Sedum, Coral Bells, Siberian Iris, and ornamental grasses. Native plants that grew up here: Coneflower, Monarda, Coreopsis, and Baptisia. Discuss placement and selection choices with an experienced Landscape Designer.*

*- Mr. Smarty Plants*