



May 2011 Newsletter

**Our 2011 Catalog is at
www.nurseryservices.com**

UserName: nsi / Password: plants (lowercase)

Our 2011-printed catalog is in the mail...

The Top 10 Gardening Mistakes

1. Clueless Watering

Many gardeners kill new plants by either drowning or letting them dry out too much. It's best to get to know your plants moisture requirements and check the soil on a regular bases.

2. Wrong Plant, Wrong Place

It is good to know whether your plant needs sun or shade, or prefers dry or moist soil. Buy plants that fit the conditions in your garden.

3. Not Giving Plants Enough Space

When buying plants look at the spacing needed. A three gallon rhododendron plant looks really cute and compact, but in a couple of years its 3 to 4 feet across, choking other plants.

4. Not Knowing your Zone

Identify the USDA Hardiness Zone of your area. You do not want to plant warm weather plants in a cold weather zone area.

5. Haphazard Fertilizing

Using too little fertilizer does not do anything for the plant. Too much fertile causes plants to grow spindly, and become more susceptible to pests and diseases. It's important to read the directions and stick to them.

6. Not Mulching

Mulching reduces evaporation, discourages weeds and helps keep plants cooler which makes them less stressed during summer months. A three inch layer of mulch is beneficial to the health and well being of the plants.

7. Half-Assed Soil Preparation

Soil preparation is important whether you're growing vegetables or planting trees and perennials. Loosen the soil to a depth of twelve inches or more to incorporate several inches of soil amendments. Ideally, test each site to see what is needed to grow the plants to its fullest potential.

8. Sun/Shade Fairy Tales

Everyone has planted a tree or shrub in a shady place when it needs full sun. In addition, thinking half day sunlight should be plenty and plant it anyway. The plant will stay healthy for a few years and start to decline. Pay attention to the sun exposure recommendations and plant accordingly.

9. Not Knowing Your Site

Every yard is different from sun exposure, wind, flooding with heavy rain or just bad soil. Spend time to get to know your site before you plant, it will save you from problems in the future.

10. Listening to People

Listen to the homeowner to get an idea of their yard and what works and does not work for them. Trust yourself and your ideas. You will make mistakes, but become a better gardener because of them.