



# Betty's Bloomers Nursery

Issue 1

OCTOBER 15, 2005

## We Are Still Here!

I just thought I would take time out from all the clean-up from Hurricane Rita to let everyone know we are still here and plan to be back in full swing soon. I hope everyone's lives are beginning to return back to normal.

We feel very fortunate that the damage to our business was not as bad as it could have been. We lost one greenhouse and suffered slight damage to two other greenhouses and our office. And like some of you, we also lost too many trees.

## What's in Season ?



Nothing says fall more than when Chrysanthemums begin to bloom. For a longer bloom time choose

plants just beginning to show color instead of plants in full bloom.

It is time to plant fall bedding plants such as pansies, dianthus, & snapdragons. These plants will do well in very fertile soil that is kept evenly moist. Try planting in large containers that drain well mixed together with other cool weather foliage.

Many easy to grow perennials bloom best in the cooler weather of fall. Try planting hardy salvias, lions head, copper canyon daisy, cat's whiskers, & hamelia patens.

Some vegetable seed can be sowed directly into your garden. Choose from Turnips, Collards, Mustard and Spinach. Cool weather lettuce can also be planted now for a quick crop. Thin rows by picking young tender plants and adding to salads and soups.

## To Do List:

If you have not already done so, small trees and shrubs can be saved from wind damage by staking the trunks back to an upright position. If there are exposed roots dig the soil underneath them and rebury the roots. It is very important to keep these plants well watered while they recover from the shock. Prune back any broken or damaged limbs. Don't try to reshape the plants now, let them recover and branch out again before pruning any healthy branches off. The plants need to keep as

much healthy growth as possible to help them recover.

## Something Extra

Like many of you, I felt really sad and depressed to see so much destruction after returning home after the storm. But, just days after the storm I began to notice plants that had been beaten down and bent from the wind were holding their heads up and reaching for the sun. Some plants were even beginning to bloom again. Then I noticed butterflies, and bees going about their business of collecting pollen and nectar like nothing had happened. (It is amazing to me how something as fragile as a butterfly could survive such amazing forces.) Then when the generators were no longer making so much noise I heard birds singing and squirrels chattering!

Maybe we all need to stop and learn the lesson nature is trying to tell us-- That things will get back to normal sooner than we think and we need to appreciate the simple things that we have now and try not to worry about tomorrow.

## Contact us

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HAPPY GARDENING!