Website Upgrades...

You've probably noticed some changes on the website in recent weeks, and there are more to come.

We've added some more links on our Home Page which are designed to give more tools to assist you with customers, and in your own planning:

* A ‘Web Weather’ page with links to some very helpful weather sites to assist you plan out your job schedules and other activities this Spring.

* ‘Plant Characteristics’ pages, which include listings of plants which are deer resistant; attractive to birds, butterflies, hummingbirds; and fragrant. Coming soon: Salt resistant and water tolerant plants.

* Monthly Calendars with hints and ‘to do’ lists of some of the ‘garden-cleaning’ jobs needed each month.

* A color palette of our perennials, which groups them together by color for easy reference. We’ve included links to each one so you can get more information about the ones you like!

* Some close-up pictures of our display gardens in Volo. A virtual way to show customers how things look ‘in real life’. Coming soon: our display gardens in Hampshire are almost done.

* Coming Soon:
  - A bloom calendar of our perennials and shrubs so you can plan month by month for a continually blooming garden.
  - A referral service for homeowners who log into our site, to be able to contact local contractors for their landscaping needs.

Plant for Color Throughout the Season:

With a little planning, you can ensure a colorful display of blooms throughout the Spring season:

**EARLY:** Eastern Redbud

Native tree with purple-pink blossoms followed by heart-shaped, light green leaves.

**EARLY-MID:** Magnolia.

Ranges from early-blooming *M. stellata* and *M. liliiflora*, to the later blooming *M. ‘Galaxy’* and *M. virginiana*.

**MID:** *Malus & Pyrus* (Crabapples & Pears)

Profuse blooms on hardy, disease-resistant trees. Persistent berries provide color through Winter months.

**LATE:** *Syringa* (Tree Lilacs)

Very hardy, disease-resistant trees with huge clusters of white, late-Spring blooms.

Some real plant name meanings:

: ‘Zone 5 with protection’ = a variation on the phrase “Russian Roulette”.

: ‘Moisture-loving’ plants = ideal for landscaping all your bogs and swamps.

: ‘Carefree’ = refers more to the plant’s attitude than to your workload.
Wilson Words

A Closer look: Eva

Eva gets the spotlight this month – our intrepid Volo CSR. Eva has been with us for 8 and a half years now, and we asked Eva to tell us a little more about herself:

Where are you from? I was born in Chicago, IL

Family? One husband – Randy; one daughter Mary (20yrs old); 3 dogs and one cat.


What is the favorite part of your job? My customers & co-workers

What 3 words help describe who you are?
a. Outgoing: I enjoy getting to know people.
b. Ambitious: I enjoy the challenge of learning new things & taking on new responsibilities.
c. Funny: I enjoy laughing & making others laugh.

A little April Trivia… April Fool’s Day

April Fools’ Day, sometimes called All Fools’ Day, is one of the most light-hearted days of the year. Its origins are uncertain. Some see it as a celebration related to the turn of the seasons, while others believe it stems from the adoption of a new calendar.

It is worth noting that many different cultures have had days of foolishness around the start of April, give or take a couple of weeks. The Romans had a festival named Hilaria on March 25, rejoicing in the resurrection of Attis. The Hindu calendar has Holi, and the Jewish calendar has Purim. Perhaps there’s something about the time of year, with its turn from winter to spring, that lends itself to lighthearted celebrations.

April Fools’ Day is observed throughout the Western world. Practices include sending someone on a “fool’s errand,” looking for things that don’t exist; playing pranks; and trying to get people to believe ridiculous things.

Top 100 April 1 Hoaxes

Plant Focus: Prunus x. ‘Snofozam’ (White Fountains Weeping Cherry)

Height: 10-12’ high
Width: 10-12’ wide
Sun: Full Sun.

A slow-growing, deciduous tree with a naturally weeping habit. Its cascading branches dip all the way to the ground, giving the appearance of a white or snow fountain when covered with pure white, fragrant flowers in the Spring. The flowers give way to small, black, inedible fruits. Dark green leaves through growing season, turning to attractive shades of gold and orange in the Fall.

Hardy to USDA Zone 5. Introduced in 1985 by Lake County Nursery of Perry, Ohio. Also known as ‘Snow Fountains’, and is sometimes listed as a cultivar of P. x. yedoensis or P. subhirtella. Summer.

Attracts birds and butterflies. Makes an attractive specimen for lawns or small areas around the home, or in Japanese gardens.

Call us for more information, or to order yours today. A beautiful and unique cultivar!