

Flowering trees in spring

BY TOM CAVAN
Flowering Trees

Flowering trees in spring have so much impact on the garden. In my mind, when I picture flowering trees in spring I usually reflect on some of the impressive display gardens like the Keukenhoff or Butchart Gardens. To see full the flowering or Ornamental or Cherry or Flowering Crabs mixed together is an impressive sight. Blending together with horizontal branches and bright colors of white, pinks, and reds these smaller trees can find a place in any garden, no matter what size or what theme your garden may contain. I would point that all trees flower, it's just that many of the large shade trees have very insignificant flowers on them, usually green in color so they're very easy to overlook. There are many medium to small sized trees that are extremely hardy and many are native to our zone, i.e. Downy Serviceberry, Cherry and Hawthorn.

I think of all the flowering trees Crabapple have the largest number of varieties for this area. The Hope Crab, I am sure you've all seen with its deep pink fragrant flowers and robust growth habit. There are many other shades of pink to choose from like Prolesion Pink which has double fragrant flowers and Radiant which is another rich colored pink, but not as much red as the Hopa. There is a deep red called Royalty Red that is the darkest red available. Royalty Red also had red leaves, so it will accent your home after it has flowered.

When searching for your Flowering Crab don't close your mind to these colors. My all time favorite is a variety called Dolgo Flowering Crab. The Dolgo is prolific fragrant white that outperforms in every category. Dolgo flowers stronger, grows more vigorously, it bears one of the largest fruits which can be used for preserves and wine making. The fruit of the Dolgo Flowering Crab can be left on the tree for an amazing display of fall colour as it ripens to a deep purple tone, the birds will make a Thanksgiving feast of these delicious fruits. If you really let them ripen the bite into one becomes very convincing as to the potential as a food source. One other notable mention is Red Jade Weeping Crab. This flowering crab looks like a fountain of flowers in spring and adds an ornamental flair to your garden during summer months. It is an excellent choice for small space gardens.

The Ornamental Cherry trees that I recommend for this area are few because of two reasons, one is a fungus that runs rampant in the area, it is called Black Knot. To recognize it on the wild Choke Cherry in this area it has a knarled black fruiting structure on the branches that infect the tree through the little golden markings you see on the bark. They are called lenticils. The fungus then travels through the veins of the tree and totally infects the trees. When you go to prune the infected parts out you have to sterilize your pruning tools between each cut. The other reason is winter exposure.

Therefore I recommend the Schubert Cherry which grows vigorously, does not require much pruning (unless you've planted it in the wrong place) and its leaves change color mid-season from green to red. Kwan-san Cherry is another that can be used in this area but it will not flower in highly exposed areas so if you want to add this fragrant double flowering cherry to your garden be sure it is well protected from winter winds.

The native Serviceberry (Amelanchier) trees have to be the hardiest and most trouble-free flowering trees you plant for this area. The Serviceberries flower before they leaf-out so, you can count on this tree to be in flower before anything else except for maybe the crocus. With a

slow growth habit this tree will withstand any exposure accent, any location, sun or shade. The strong flowering in spring is enough of a reason to plant this one but it has other attributes worth mentioning. This tree bears small, black, pea-size fruit and if you're there that afternoon you will witness a bird feeding frenzy like no other. In the fall the trees is no slacker, it turns a brilliant orange red and will contrast well near any other tree. Serviceberries accent well in behind shrub borders so their

horizontally branched head will develop over the shrubs for added dimension.

On April 22nd the world will be commemorating the 21st anniversary of Earth Day, a day to remember, Earth Day. On this day represented by all countries the world will express its concern for the environment and the protection of Earth. Please join us on this symbolic day and plant a tree for earthsake.

If you have any questions, call the Garden Hotline at 519-833-2117.

ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE PRE-PLANNING OPEN HOUSE FOR WAYSIDE PITS IN THE TOWN OF CALEDON

The public is invited to attend a Pre-Planning Open House to examine a proposed Aggregate Sources List for several Ministry of Transportation highway construction projects located north and west of Metropolitan Toronto.

The Proposed Aggregate Sources List includes nine potential wayside sources in the Town of Caledon, all of which are located west of the First Line East.

Representatives from the Ministries of Transportation and Natural Resources will be present to answer questions on the information and receive comments from the public.

Date: Thursday, April 18, 1991
Time: 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Caledon Village Place
Highway 10, North of Caledon
Fairground
Caledon



Ministry
of
Transportation

Ministère
des
Transports



Money Orders \$1.25

per money order for up to \$999.00 orders.

Compare with the
banks and then
come in to:

**BUSINESSES
RECEIVE
5% VOLUME
DISCOUNT**

**DELREX
SMOKE SHOP**
GEORGETOWN MARKET PLACE
877-9284 (FAX SERVICE AVAILABLE)



Children's Miracle Network



Help
Mister Donut®
Raise Dough
For The Hospital
For Sick Children

DONATE \$1.00 To The Children's
Miracle Network

And Receive A Coupon Booklet To

GET \$10.00 Worth of Savings
At Mister Donut

The Children's Miracle Network generates funds and awareness programs for children through member hospitals. 100% of all donations go directly to local hospitals.

306 Guelph Street
Georgetown
873-1211

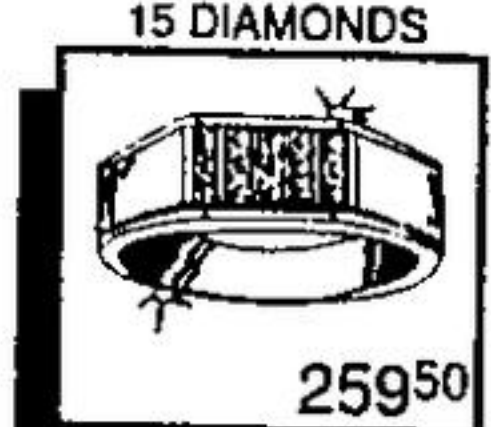
**Mister
Donut®**



SELECTED
GOLD JEWELLERY 50% OFF

50% OFF
DIAMONDS

DISCOUNT APPLIES
TO REGULARLY PRICED
MERCHANDISE ONLY.



All prices shown are sale prices

KERN'S THE DIAMOND PEOPLE SINCE 1939

GEORGETOWN MARKET PLACE
877-1230

\$500 OFF COUPON

Bring this coupon into Kern's and receive an additional \$5.00 off the selected sales items shown in this ad. This is a limited time offer so hurry in today!