

## Daylilies

(continued from page 1)

works really well is to use two digging forks jammed, back to back, down through the center of the clump. Then pry the clump apart. The process can then be repeated on the halves. The advantage of using the forks, compared to a spade or knife, is that you will cut off fewer roots. If you divide the clumps, we suggest that you cut off all of the bloom stalks and cut the fans in half with a pair of scissors. This will allow the roots to get reestablished without having to try to support so much top growth.

**Ellison's introductions:** Just a reminder that we have several of hybridizer Bob Ellison's recent introductions. Most were lined out two years ago, so they have sized up, and should bloom nicely. Bob has created some outstanding introductions, many with heavy ruffling and 'bubbling' on the edges.

**Please note:** We will be closed on Wednesday, July 4, as well as all Sundays.

## Two Great Trees

One thing that we wish we had done sooner with our property is to plant more trees. We certainly have planted lots of trees in the last 15 years, but we have lived here for nearly 30 years, and only put out a handful of trees during those early years.

Of course, 25 years ago we hadn't learned about all the cool trees that we know about now. Trees are a bigger investment, and last longer, than flowers. So a little education, or at least some good advice, is worth obtaining before selecting trees to plant. Here are a couple of good trees to consider.

*Cladrastis kentuckea* (a.k.a. *Cladrastis lutea*) is better known as American Yellowwood. It is native to some areas of the country, and is hardy to Zone 4. Besides being a nice shade tree, growing 30-50' tall and wide, it has three other great features. Its cascading white flowers provide one of the most spectacular shows among large trees in late spring. In fall, the leaves turn a rich yellow. And the bark is

smooth and gray, very much like a Beech tree.

The other tree I want to mention is *Fagus sylvatica* 'Asplenifolia', better known as the Fernleaf Beech. Beech trees are a little slower growing than some other trees, but they are spectacular plants. I was first wowed with 'Asplenifolia' when I saw a row of them planted along the river at the Chicago Botanic Gardens. The graceful, cut foliage gives the tree a definite ferny appearance. Leaves turn golden in the fall. The bark is the usual, beautiful gray bark of the European Beeches. It grows up to 50' tall with a spread of 40'. Beeches are hardy to at least Zone 5, and probably well into Zone 4. (Dirr lists them as being hardy to Zone (4)5.) You see lots of Beech trees in Boston, which is further north than we are.

We have nice examples of both of these trees in the ground near the east daylily field. Ask us to show them to you if you can't find them.



www.hornbakergardens.com  
 email: mail@hornbakergardens.com  
 22937 1140 N. Ave., Princeton, Illinois 61356  
 (815) 659-3282

## Get July Color With Daylilies

The heat is bringing the daylilies on quickly. We expect a fair amount of bloom by the end of June, and the peak of the season will start around the first of July and continue for nearly three weeks. Daylilies, of course, have a longer bloom season than the irises do. Some of the early bloomers start in June, and some of the late bloomers don't start until late July.

**CLUMPS APLENTY:** The vast majority of varieties will be available in clumps this year. What that means is that, instead of ordering a start of a certain variety (to be dug later, in early August), you will also have the option to purchase a whole clump, which we will dig right away, drop it in a plastic bag, and send it home with you. Clumps have become so popular that

we sell more in clump form than we do by taking orders.

One would think that digging a clump in July would be hard on the plant. But we dip the roots in water right away, and get the clump into a plastic bag in the shade. As long as the clump is planted right away, and watered well, it seems to do just fine.

Most people are looking for that instant maturity, and plant the clump as is. But clumps are a great deal for those looking for a lot of daylilies for a large landscaping project. They can be divided into a few nice chunks, or divided further into a lot of single and double fans. One dividing method that



*Continued on back page*

**Always Afternoon**

## Mini-Pondless Waterfall May Be Your Size



Everyone loves the sound of waterfalls. But not everyone has the space or desire to have a pond with a waterfall, nor the space or budget for the type of larger pondless waterfall that we built out here last summer. But check out the mini version of the pondless waterfall that we built last fall, if you haven't already. It only takes up a space of around 8' x 4', and really puts out some great sound, with its 2500 gallon per hour pump. It is located uphill from our gazebo.

This is the perfect water feature to locate near your porch or patio, where you can enjoy it most often, or use it as a garden centerpiece. Talk to Dave or Rich about having us install one for you. We also have kits on hand for you do-it-yourselfers.

### RETAIL HOURS

We are open April 10 through October 10, Monday through Saturday, 8:00 to 5:00. We are closed on Sundays, as well as on July 4 and Labor Day, September 3.

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