



YEW DELL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Spring 2022 Opening Day Plant Sale

March 26, 2022

This is a ticketed event with tickets available from 10 am-12 pm, 12-2 pm, and 2-4 pm. Please visit our website at www.yewdellgardens.org/classes-events/ to purchase your tickets today!

Hellebore Collection

We have promoted the genus *Helleborus* here in the Louisville area for many years now and for good reason! Drought and shade tolerant. Deer proof. Yes, we used the words deer and proof together. Some of the species begin blooming as early as December and the rest follow through January, February, and March. During the warm days in winter you can even find pollinators on them getting a quick meal before the weather turns back cold. The maintenance for these plants are quite simple as well. For the *Helleborus niger* and *Helleborus* hybrids simply remove all of the foliage before the new flowers begin to emerge. The *Helleborus x nigercors* has a bit different schedule of cut back. You will want to wait until they have finished blooming in late spring before you remove their spent foliage. Other than that they need very little care. Wonderful plants.

Plant Name	Description
<i>Helleborus</i> 'California Dreaming' (Honeymoon® Lenten Rose Hybrid)	Beautiful soft yellow flowers.
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Dark and Handsome' (Wedding Party® Lenten Rose Hybrid)	A double-flowered, nearly black in color selection.
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Pine Knot Select' (Lenten Rose Hybrid)	This seed strain comes from Pine Knot Farm in Virginia that specializes in <i>Helleborus</i> . This strain will brighten the garden in winter with colors that range from white to nearly black, maroon to pale yellow, and picotees to pink. The fun thing about these is as the clumps begin to mature and the seedlings begin to flower you can start selecting the colors you want more of and removing those you don't. It could be the start of your plant selecting and breeding addiction!
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Sandy Shores' (Lenten Rose Hybrid)	Petals of soft yellow to white on inside of the bloom but a beautiful salmon color on the back.
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Southern Belle' (Lenten Rose Hybrid)	This is another seed strain from the Pine Knot Farm in Virginia and like the 'Pine Knot Select' strain the 'Southern Belle' strain comes in a wide range of color but the flowers of these are nearly all double flowering!
<i>Helleborus</i> 'Victoria' (VIV® Lenten Rose Hybrid)	A purple/maroon single flower. The flower stalks on this variety are loaded with buds and puts on quite the show in winter.
<i>Helleborus x nigercors</i> 'Emma' (Lenten Rose)	This is an interspecific cross between <i>H. niger</i> and <i>H. argutifolius</i> . These white/soft yellow flowers are beginning to flower in January in the nursery. The foliage resembles that of the <i>H. argutifolius</i> with a very thick dark green leaf that is flushed with silver.



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Kentucky Spring Ephemeral Collection

As our nursery at Yew Dell has grown we have been concentrated on building up stock of shade perennials which includes many of your favorite spring ephemerals. As we continue to grow our nursery you can expect this list to only get bigger. All of these plants below are in our nursery now and are starting to wake up in our old shade house. Some of them are still thinking about and may not be quite ready by opening day but we wanted to share the entire list with you anyway. If they take a little longer to wake up you can expect them to be available at our Spring Plant Sale on April 29th and 30th.

Plant Name	Description
Asarum arifolium (Arrowhead Ginger)	This eastern Kentucky native, low growing plant is similar to the other gingers but instead of the common round leaf it has a pronounced arrowhead shape to the leaf. Evergreen but during the winter a nice purple hue may develop if cold enough. Small flowers appear in early spring at ground level and although not big and showy it is always fun to lift up the leaves and take a look at such unusual blooms! Another common name for this plant is Little Brown Jug. It gets this name because the flowers are brown and (you guessed it) look like little brown jugs with small openings!
Dicentra canadensis (Squirrel Corn)	A common name that can be quite confusing until you dig the plant up and look at its underground structure. Even Chip and Dale might get confused by the small bright yellow corms that can be about the size of a kernel of corn. Native to Kentucky this cool little plant will be up in the garden in early spring with very delicate, feathery leaves in a gray/green color. The clusters of white flowers stand above the short foliage and resemble hearts.
Hepatica acutiloba (Sharp-Lobed Hepatica)	One of the earliest spring ephemerals to flower in Kentucky. The small delicate flowers will appear in March above the foliage that remains from last year. After flowering the new leaves will emerge and stay green until the cold temperature of winter changes them to a nice purple hue. Commonly found on limestone outcrops. Very cool little plant for the native enthusiast and gardener who can appreciate things on the small scale in the garden.
Jeffersonia diphylla (Twin Leaf)	One of the most elusive spring ephemerals to catch in flower here in Kentucky. For only a day or two these plants push up single, large and white flowers that are about 1" across. The petals stay on the flower for a very short time so if you miss a day or two in the woods you can miss the flowers but fortunately the foliage is very cool and lasts much longer. At the same time the plant is pushing up flowers it is also sending up the foliage and each leaf opens up to resemble a pair of green butterfly wings which gives the plant its common name. As the season progresses the leaves expand and form nice large clumps before dying back in the summer.



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Kentucky Spring Ephemeral Collection Cont.

Plant Name	Description
<i>Mertensia virginica</i> (Virginia Bluebells)	The quintessential and much loved Kentucky native spring ephemeral. Emerging in the garden in later March and coming into full bloom in April this plant will naturalize over the years and glow with blue to pink flowers. At Yew Dell, large masses of these can be found under the Beech trees. Local areas around Louisville that have amazing displays of these in the woodlands are Harrod's Creek Park in Prospect and on Trail 1 at the Charlestown State Park in Indiana.
<i>Pachysandra procumbens</i> (Allegheny Spurge)	Our native <i>Pachysandra</i> ! A great shade plant that flowers before the new foliage emerges in the spring. Not aggressive like the Japanese species. A great addition to your shade garden! During the winter this plant will stay 'evergreen' as the green foliage of summer turns to a mottle brownish green as the season progresses and the temperatures cool.
<i>Podophyllum peltatum</i> (Mayapple)	There isn't a much more widely known spring ephemeral in the Kentucky woodlands. If you have taken a hike in April and May, you have most certainly seen this plant. Emerging in April the large umbrella leaves can grow to over 12" tall. Once the root system is mature enough to support flowering the stem will have two leaves which hide a solitary white flower below. As the summer progresses the plant will begin to go back into dormancy and disappear until the next year. Over the years this plant will colonize and make amazing masses in your woodland garden.
<i>Primula meadia</i> (Shooting Star)	You may have learned this plant as <i>Dodecatheon meadia</i> . After looking at this plant closer and comparing it to others the taxonomists have grouped it in with <i>Primula</i> . Anyway, no matter the name this is a cool plant! Large basal leaves emerge in late March or early April and bloom during May. The umbel of flowers stands about 12" above foliage and each flower hangs downward but the white to pink petal face straight giving the resemblance to a shooting star! These plants are fairly prolific if you cross the Ohio River and hike in Clifty Falls State Park in Madison, Indiana. They cling to the limestone cliffs above the trails. Our ample spring rains give these plants plenty of moisture to flourish during their spring growing season before they go dormant during the hot and dry periods of summer.



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Kentucky Spring Ephemeral Collection Cont.

Plant Name	Description
<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i> (Bloodroot)	Another giant white flower that blooms across Kentucky in late March / early April. As the plant emerges the leaf is wrapped around the flower bud. You will see what look like little green/grey bundles poking out of the ground that suddenly start to unfurl and a single white flower up to 2" across will open, do its business, and form a seed pod. As the petals begin to fall off the flower the single leaf of the plant will begin to grow and will persist until summer before going dormant. Well established, mature clumps of this plant can have leaves nearly 12" across!
<i>Smilacina racemosa</i> (False Solomon's Seal)	At first glance this plant can easily be confused with a <i>Polygonatum</i> if not in flower. Unlike Solomon's Seal whose flowers hang below the stem at leaf axils this plant has plumes of white flowers at the end of each stalk. During late summer and into fall the plant develops clusters of bright red berries.
<i>Stylophorum diphyllum</i> (Celandine Poppy)	One of the brightest yellow flowers you can have in your garden. An early spring ephemeral native to Kentucky this plant deserves a home in every shade garden. Standing 12-18" tall the foliage of this plant will persist quite a long time into summer but it is those bright yellow flowers that make it the gem that it is.
<i>Trillium cuneatum</i> (Sweet Betsy)	Excellent Kentucky native for the woodland/shade garden. Broadly ovate leaves are mottled green and burgundy with a single flower at the center of each 8-10" tall stem. Flower color typically maroon but can show shades of yellow as well. One of the easier Trilliums to grow in the garden.
<i>Trillium luteum</i> (Yellow Trillium)	A tall Trillium at 12-15" tall with mottled foliage. All of the same characteristics of three leaves, three petals, and three sepals like all trilliums except this one has beautiful yellow petals. I wonder if finding a four leaf Trillium would bring you good luck like it is said of a four leaf clover?!
<i>Trillium recurvatum</i> (Bloody Butcher)	Trilliums may just have the most bizarre common names of any group of plants out there. You have Wake Robins, Toad Shades, Wood Lilies, and with this one, Bloody Butchers! The color of this plants three petals does give a pretty straight forward idea of where the name comes from though. A deep red to maroon color resembles the color that you might see of a fresh cut piece of beef at your local butcher shop!
<i>Uvularia grandiflora</i> (Bellwort)	This is an elegant plant! Forming large clumps of upright foliage somewhat similar to a <i>Polygonatum</i> but more full when it finally gets fully grown in late spring. When the stems begin to emerge the plant flowers before the leaves completely open which allows a great showing of the flowers. They are comprised of bright yellow petal that are twisted and hang downward.



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Agave Collection

We haven't got around to changing the genus name of Manfreda and Mangave. They are now all grouped under Agave. The cool thing about that is we can now say we have an Agave native to Kentucky (Agave virginica)! Anyway, if you have been visiting the Glasshouse at Yew Dell over the winter you may have seen the HUGE collection of Mangave (a cross between what are now all species of Agave). These plants have been bred into so many different shapes, sizes, and colors it is mind boggling. Be sure to check them out this summer on the Glasshouse Terrace. This will be their second season at Yew Dell and should really put on a show. We are going to bring out 'Bad Hair Day' and 'Chocolate Chips' for our Opening Day celebration so you can grab a couple for your patio planters too!

Plant Name	Description
Manfreda undulata 'Chocolate Chips' (False Agave)	Sooo close to being hardy in the Louisville area! If you live inside the Watterson expressway you have a pretty good chance of this overwintering. We still recommend it being in a planter to bring in the house during the winter. Extremely spotted and wavy foliage can grow two feet wide!! A definite focal point and conversation piece on the patio.
Mangave 'Bad Hair Day' (Mangave)	Another awesome selection of the Manfreda and Agave cross. Fast growing and an awesome plant for a patio planter in the warm months and also a welcome addition to the houseplant collection in the winter. 'Bad Hair Day' has very thin leaves that hang over the container and will become more spotted with age.



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Other Stuff for Opening Day

As with all of our in person plant sales you can expect us to find more stuff to drag out of the nursery than what is on this list! We can tell you these plants will be some of that "other stuff." The two primula are in flower and will knock out your eyes when you see the on the tables! Keep an eye out for other things we might bring out too. There are some variegated Forsythia and several Azalea varieties getting ready to bloom and will probably end up being available. As always we will have plenty of our "Kroger bag" Helleborus that we dig up out of the gardens at Yew Dell as well. I wonder if the 'Alley Cat' Redbuds will be blooming and need to come out of the nursery?

Plant Name	Description
Lycoris squamigera (Naked Lady)	The classic! Spring sprays of long, strap-like upright foliage melts away by early to mid-summer when the bare, naked lady stems shoot up from the ground to offer their huge pink trumpets. Will grow just about anywhere you can get a spade in the ground!
Primula vulgaris 'Kerbelbut' (Belarina® Buttercup Primrose)	Buttercup flowers in late winter or early spring with soft yellow flowers. During the heat of the summer this plant can go dormant but expect it to come back in the fall and persist through spring.
Primula vulgaris 'Kerbelpice' (Belarina® Pink Ice Primrose)	A wonderful little cold and summer hardy series of Primrose. Pink Ice will have light pink flowers in late winter early spring. Best suited for areas of the shade garden that do not go through stretches of dry weather in the summer.
Saxifraga stolonifera (Strawberry Begonia)	Looks like a begonia but runs like a strawberry. Sometimes common names make sense! A wonderful little groundcover for the shade with mottled green/silver leaves and quite possibly one of the prettiest flowers in the garden. Now they may be one of the smallest flowers in the garden but they make up for it in show! The plants we will have for sale on opening day have been in the glasshouse and not used to cold temps so keep this one in a warm area until the weather stays consistently warm. It is a vey hardy perennial in this area though! We are going to go ahead and set them out because they are in flower now!
Rohdea japonica (Sacred Lily)	This is a unique and hard to find evergreen perennial clumper for the shade garden. Grows to about 12-18" tall, looking almost like a broad leafed, evergreen daylily. Small spring flowers in white yield bright red/orange fruit that persist through the winter. Easy to grow and long lived it can add a lot of winter interest in the garden when most other shade perennials have died back and gone dormant.