

STATE-BY-STATE
GARDENING

OHIO GARDENER

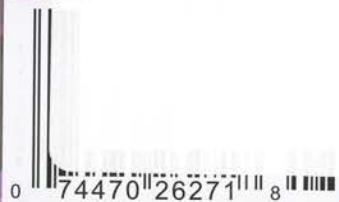
OHIO'S OWN GUIDE TO GREAT GARDENING & LANDSCAPING

Create a Garden
that Shines in the
Nighttime

**10 Power
Performing
Perennials**

**Gardening
for the Senses**

July/A



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Green Leading Green

The landscape and garden industry is often referred to as the 'green' industry. But some organizations are really going green by building eco-friendly facilities, promoting native plants, maintaining habitats and adopting sustainable practices.

It is only natural that those in the business of growing green plants be leaders in a key trend across our country — “greening.” I’m proud to introduce you to some institutions which are real-world sustainability models in the horticultural industry.

Pennsylvania Plant Library

Jenkins Arboretum and Gardens, located in Devon, Pa., is open seven days a week, 365 days a year and, best of all, admission is free. This 46-acre garden was opened in 1976. As a botanical garden, the arboretum maintains a collection of native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and ferns in a tranquil, naturalistic landscape. The highlight of the botanical garden is their rhododendron, azalea and mountain laurel collection. Executive director Harold Sweetman views the arboretum as “a library of plants,” preserving them for enjoyment by future generations.

Upon arrival, you are welcomed into the John J. Willaman Educational Center; a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold-certified “green” building, which was completed in 2009. Sweetman says, “The ‘L’ stands for leadership. We appreciate being recognized as a leader and are grateful to share our vision of sustainability with like-minded people.”

Visitors can stroll the 1.2 miles of woodland paths in the arboretum and leave with inspiration for their own gardens. The unique landscape and diverse plant collections also provide a sanctuary for a variety of native birds, insects and other wildlife.

For more information on Jenkins Arboretum and Gardens, visit www.jenkinsarboretum.org or call 610-647-8870. Jenkins is located at 631 Berwyn Baptist Road, Devon, Pa.



Top: A specimen *Franklinia alatamaha*, or Franklin tree, in flower near the Bog Garden at Jenkins Arboretum and Gardens. Harold Sweetman, executive director, says children visiting the arboretum call this the “fried egg tree.” **Above:** Sweetman relays the history of the arboretum to guests in front of the Jenkins House. The home and 20 acres were the groundwork for the arboretum, a memorial by H. Lawrence Jenkins for his wife Elisabeth who was an avid gardener and wildlife enthusiast.



Top: Linvilla's Farm Market is full of fresh fruits and veggies raised on their farm as well as gourmet foods, and homemade fudge, caramel and candy apples. Their in-house bakery features a daily assortment of freshly baked goods including more than 40 varieties of pies. **Above:** Always striving to be a leader, Lucas Greenhouses tests many new annual plants and plant combinations each year to determine which are the "best of the best."

Destination for Family Fun

Linvilla Orchards is a 300-acre former dairy farm that is now dedicated to agriculture, entertainment, education and, most importantly, sustainability. This destination retail garden center, farm market and bakery are a fourth-generation, 75-percent female-owned company. Its business is focused on agri-tourism opportunities including fee fishing, pick-your-own programs, special events and school tours.

Their state-of-the-art environmentally friendly garden center features Nexus Greenhouses. It had its grand opening in April 2011. Linvilla boasts an energy-effi-

cient geothermal pump, a polycarbonate roof and a stamped concrete floor warmed by water that is heated by a woodchip burner. The building also features shade curtains for blocking out the sunlight and to conserve heat, high-efficiency LED and fluorescent lights, and an area to collect rain water to use for watering their plants as well as a new experimental hydroponic growing system. This retail location is just about as environmentally friendly as you can get!

For more info on Linvilla Orchards, go to www.linvilla.com or call 610-876-7116. Linvilla Orchards are located at 137 W. Knowlton Road, Media, Pa.

No Ordinary Green House

After more than 30 years in business, Lucas Greenhouses is a leader in annual crop production. In fact, they were the 2009 Greenhouse Grower magazine "Grower of the Year" award winner. While they're wholesale only (which means they don't sell directly to the general public), their plant products are available through local retailers all along the Eastern seaboard.

They have 14 acres of open roof and dual atrium state-of-the-art Nexus glass greenhouses to grow a variety of flowering crops. They have 30 acres of outdoor field production including over 300,000 mums and an annuals trial garden. In 2010, they added a Nexus insulated steel potting barn including five transplanting lines and a 120-yards-per-hour soil mixing system for planting. Lucas is the epitome of greenhouse crop production automation and efficiency.

Black and Green

Flat Tire Décor in Milwaukee, Wis., proudly proclaims that "black is the new green." This company recycles and repurposes flat tires into baskets, entrance mats, pot lifts and totes.

Their baskets, which come in three styles (Newport, Catalina and Venice), are perfect plant pots.

The uniqueness of recycled scrap tires ensures that no two products will ever be identical.

Best of all, they are made in the good ol' USA — in Milwaukee. They are, in part, assembled by disabled workers. This job-skills training provides them with a sense of purpose, increased self-esteem and improves their quality of life.

Visit www.flattiredecor.com to learn how and why the idea of utilizing re-inspired tires started, or visit their sister site at www.flattirefootwear.com.

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