



Dream Landscapes, One Garden At A Time

February 2009

Inside This Issue:

Welcome

Garden Tips

Featured Perennials

In the Spotlight

#### Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of our quarterly newsletter intended to keep your garden in shape and you abreast of the latest in horticulture.

#### In the Spotlight

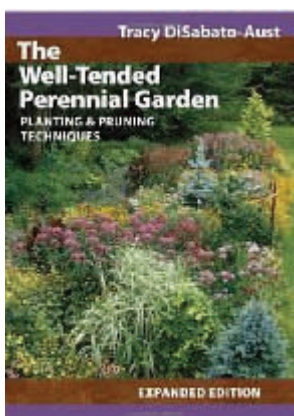
Did you know Maria's garden appeared in the June issue of This Old House Magazine? The story featured the development of their 1890 farmhouse garden. For more info click [here](#).



Are you **Linkedin** or on **Facebook**? If so, connect with us by searching for Maria Hasenecz.

#### Recommended Reading:

Tracy DiSabato-Aust 'The Well Tended Perennial Garden'. A practical book filled with the details of how to best care for Perennials.

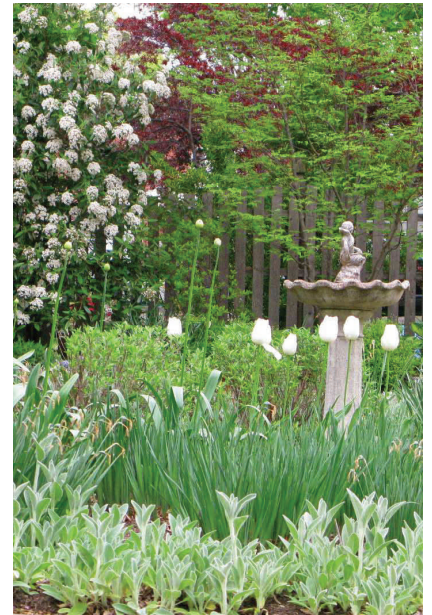


If you wish to unsubscribe, please email [info@livablelandscape.com](mailto:info@livablelandscape.com) with subject unsubscribe.

## LANDSCAPE AND GARDEN TIPS

This time of year, many are eagerly anticipating the arrival of spring, yet it's still weeks away. Although it's too early to plant, there are many things you can do inside and outside to satisfy your gardening urge, prepare for the season and to make use of the plants you have.

- Bring Spring to bloom early. Force Forsythia, Cherry, Pussy Willow and Quince branches for indoor bloom. Cut branches with plump buds, hammer or cut open the ends and place in warm water in a sunny area indoors. In a few weeks you'll have a beautiful indoor display.
- Order seeds to start inside a sunny window or under a grow light. Hyacinth Bean Vine, Black Eyed Susan Vine, Moonflower Vine, Impatiens and Coleus are very easy to grow from seed.
- Take cuttings from Geraniums and Coleus that you brought indoors to start new plants.
- Feed the birds. Make sure outdoor feeders are full as the natural food supply is low this time of year.
- Plan for your spring bulb display. Once spring does arrive, take photos of the garden and assess where you'd like additional bulb displays. We are available to do bulb planting plans should you need help.
- Plan and assess: Are there areas of the garden you'd like to enhance? Perhaps more winter interest (Witchhazels, Helleborus and Red Twig Dogwoods) or incorporating a favorite new plant you've discovered? Now is the time to plan for additional winter interest and new garden installations. Call us for a design consultation.
- Garden renovation takes planning. Does a plant need to be moved? If so, plan for it now as early Spring is the ideal time to move most perennials, trees and shrubs.
- Get ready for gardening. Clean, sharpen and oil your pruning tool and shovels. Organize



Early Spring Blooms of Viburnum 'Pragnese' and Tulips in bloom amidst Allium, Lambs Ears, Iris 'Caesar's Brother' and Caryopteris.

your garden supply area.

- Check houseplants and any plants you brought indoors for the winter, for insects that may have hitched a ride. With the heat on, they can multiply quickly.
- Prune your conifers. Yews, Hemlocks Douglas Firs, Firs and Spruces can all be pruned now.
- Plan to visit Flower Shows and extraordinary Public Gardens. Our area is blessed with a plethora of public and private gardens. The Philadelphia Flower Show is March 1st—8th. The Garden Conservancy Open Garden Days has garden tours throughout the summer. Also, check out amazing Spring displays at our regional Public gardens: Mt Cuba, Chanticleer, Longwood Gardens, Morris and Scott Arboretums.

## FEATURED SPRING PERENNIALS



With so many amazing spring blooming perennials, it's hard to choose just one. These hardy perennials shown to the left provide amazing spring color, are low growing, easy to maintain, drought tolerant and remain attractive all season.

Clockwise from top center: Phlox Subulata 'Emerald Blue', Iberis and Ajuga 'Bronze Beauty'. Phlox takes full sun and is available in white, blue and pink varieties. Both Iberis and Ajuga tolerate full sun to light shade and are evergreen. Ajuga comes with blue flowers with a variety of foliage colors such as variegated white, burgundy, blue and green. They can be used as a more interesting substitute for Liriope, Vinca and Pachysandra. Contact Livable Landscapes to incorporate them into your garden.