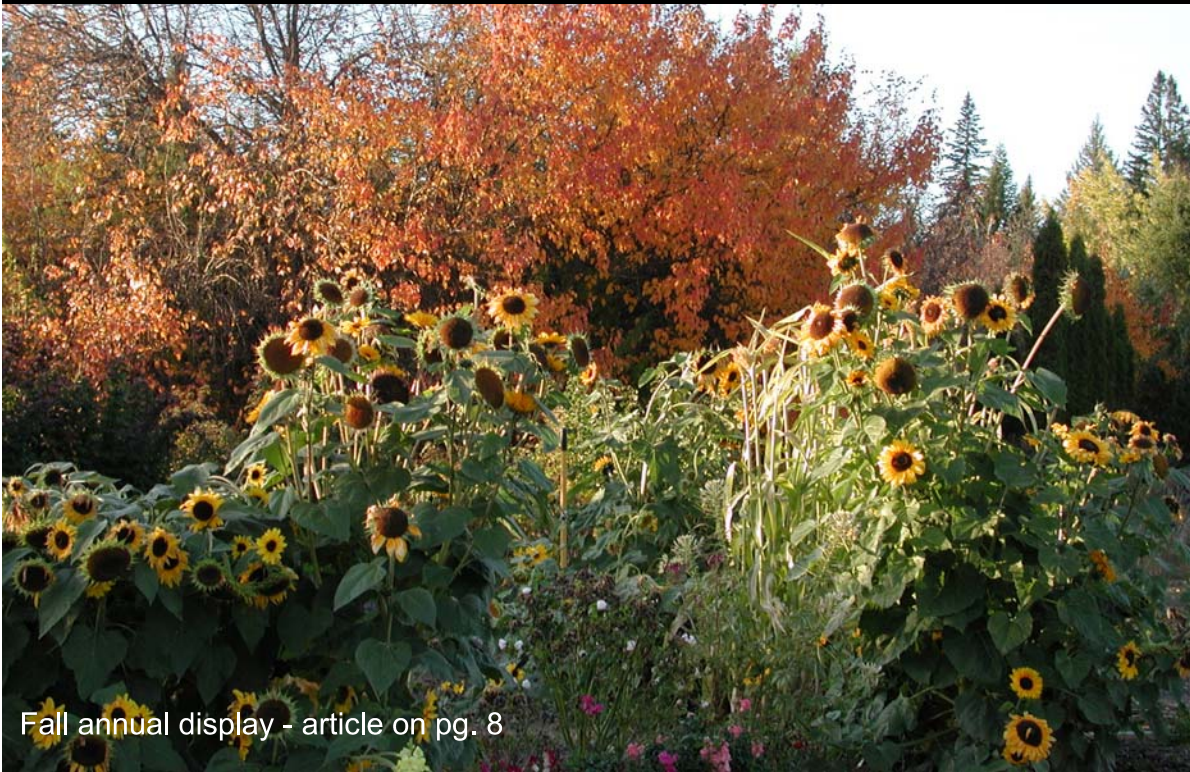




Because you
love nature...

2005 GUIDE TO

CARIBOO GARDENING



Fall annual display - article on pg. 8

GOLFING

Helping to Beautify the Cariboo for 48 Years



www.richbarnursery.com

Richbarnursery.com allows gardening enthusiasts the opportunity to plan ahead. Unlike most gardening sites, richbarnursery.com is tailored to colder climates. Our site features a searchable data base of over 1400 plants. Most of which are suitable for Zone 4 and colder. Not only can you search by name for a particular plant, but you can also search for plants by their particular features such as flower colour, foliage colour, exposure, soil preference & flowering time. The database will then give you a list of options which suit your criteria. Log onto www.richbarnursery.com today and see all that we have to offer.

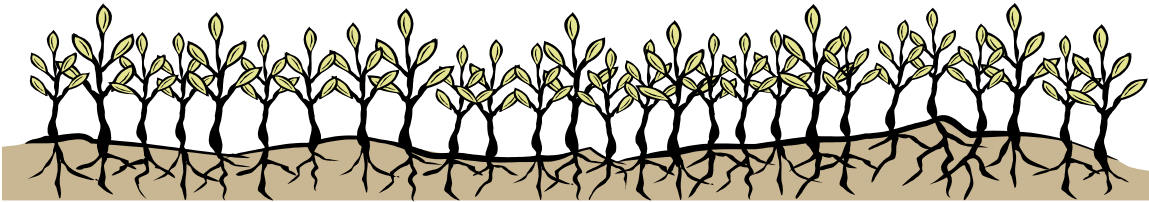


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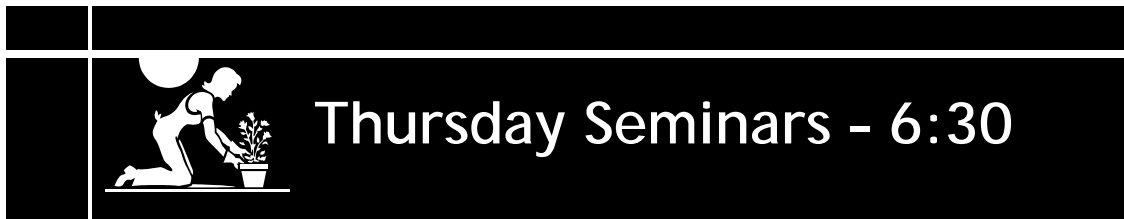
Get Great Value With Richbar Nursery Quality

Situated on 120 acres of scenic property overlooking the Fraser River, Richbar Nursery Golf & Gardens is a family owned and operated business deeply rooted in the community. We are proud sponsors of community events such as the Palliative Care Golf Tournament, Billy Barker Days, Child Development Centre and the new soccer fields.

In 1957, the Nursery constructed its first greenhouse as a lean-to off the side of the house. Since then, it has evolved into a thriving business with 24, 000 square feet of greenhouses. Bedding plants are locally grown in our greenhouse & we take pride in the fact that we have been helping to beautify the Cariboo for the past forty-eight years by offering high quality plant material and knowledgeable service.

Our staff members are some of the best in the business with years of experience. Our credentials include: Diploma of Horticulture (2), Landscape Journeyman (2) Gold Seal Certification for Project Management Landscaping (1), Certified Irrigation Designer (1), Agriculture College Training from Holland (2) Licensed Pesticide Dispensers & Applicators (7) & we are also proud winners of the BC Landscape Architects Landscaping Award.

In addition to our landscaped grounds & Garden Centre, Richbar Nursery Golf & Gardens offers a great restaurant with delicious home-cooked meals, as well as a scenic nine hole golf course which opened in 2003 after 2 years of construction. Bring the family & stay for the day. Richbar Nursery Golf & Gardens – Come play with us.



All Thursday seminars are hands on, and projects will be completed by seminar participants which they can take home. There will be a charge for all seminars to cover the cost of materials. All supplies are included. No substitutions with plant material. Get a group together, come early and enjoy a dinner out. GST will be added to all course prices.

Thursday Seminars start @ 6:30 pm. Please pre-register for all courses by phoning (250) 747-2915.

- May 5** **HANGING BASKETS – \$18.** With over forty years experience in creating beautiful hanging baskets, RBN is the place to come you want to be to learn the art of making hanging baskets. Choose one of two planting designs (sun or shade). All plants and materials included in fee.
- May 12** **PERENNIAL HERBACEOUS BORDER – \$25.** Revel in the versatility and beauty of perennials. Learn how to effectively combine different perennials to create artistic herbaceous borders requiring little maintenance. Participants will receive 2 perennial six packs of their choice to get them started.
- May 19** **BLOSSOM BAGS – \$9.** Create a ‘fountain of flowers’ with blossom bags. Select plants for either sun or shade. Bring a friend and come prepared for an evening of fun in the dirt,
- May 26** **TOMATO AND HERB POT – \$20.** Perfect for the patio or sundeck, this beautiful and functional planter will have fresh herbs and tomatoes at your finger tips all season. Perfect for people who don’t have a vegetable garden, yet would like to enjoy some home grown, fresh produce.

SPECIAL - 6 pack of 3.5" annuals 9.95 (Regular - 11.95) till May 6



Saturday Seminars - 10:30 am

FERTILIZE YOUR BRAIN

G.S.T WILL BE ADDED TO ALL SEMINAR PRICES

- April 23 Pruning & Planting - Free of Charge.** A consistent seminar favourite that is not to be missed! Learn all about correct pruning and planting techniques from Roy Josephy. This is an outdoor seminar, so come dressed for the weather. No Pre-registration required.
- April 30 Hanging Baskets & New Bedding Plant Introductions - \$18.** Want to take the guess work out of planting great hanging baskets? Let Anne show you how to make your own hanging basket to take home. Choose from two different planting designs. One for sun or one for shade. Price includes 7 plants, soil, a hanging basket & instruction. No substitutions on plant material or container.
- May 7 Patio Pot – \$25.** Show off your great taste with a pot of showy annuals for your front entrance. Pot and plants included.
- May 14 Fruit Trees – \$40.** Learn how proper pruning and good cultural practices can help maintain healthy trees and increase fruit production. Participants will receive one fruit tree (5 gal. Pot size) to start, or add to, their own orchard.
- May 21 Perennial & Shrub Bed – \$25.** Roy and Jean team up in this seminar to show participants how to combine shrubs and perennials together for best effect. Participants will each receive a collection of twelve selected perennials for sun or shade as well as a planting diagram to take home.
- May 28 Moss Basket – \$35.** What could be more lush looking than a basket lined with moss and overflowing with a bounty of impatiens and bacopa? Anne will guide you through the moss basket process and help you create your own 16” moss basket for the shade.
- June 4 Drip Irrigation – \$25.** Be water wise this year and install your own simple, cost effective drip irrigation system. Participants will leave with a starter kit that will do 100 ft. (10 containers) and the knowledge to set up their own irrigation system. Easy to add to. Not only does drip irrigation help conserve water, but it is a great time saver as well!

Pre-register for seminars by phoning 747-2915

*Seminars last approximately 1 hour. Make an afternoon of it & have lunch in the restaurant.
Bring a lawn chair & wear weather appropriate clothing as seminars may be outside.*

SPECIAL - 6 pack of 3.5" hostas 12.95 (Regular - 19.95) till May 6



THE 24 CARROT CAFÉ

KARA CARIFELLE

Once again, The 24 Carrot Café / Golf Club House is pleased to offer you the quality food and service that you have become accustomed to. Come relax in our licensed premises while enjoying a view of Quesnel's newest golf course from our licensed patio.

The 24 Carrot Café is pleased to offer a variety of foods to please every palate. Our soups are made fresh daily, with a variety of fresh ingredients. We are not just about lunch. The 24 Carrot Café also offers a variety of desserts, appetizers and snacks that are sure to satisfy even the most discerning of tastes. Check out the recipe below, and bring some friends along for a relaxing afternoon, or evening, of great food, golf and gardening!

Come out for our 9 and Dine Fridays starting in May.

BEAT THE HEAT OF SUMMER WITH THE 24 CARROT CAFÉ'S PIÑA COLADA SMOOTHIE

Serves 1

Ingredients:

1 cup	Pineapple Juice
1 cup	Vanilla Yogurt
1/2 cup	Frozen Pineapple
1/2	frozen banana
1 tbsp	Piña Colada Drink Mix

Instructions:

Add all ingredients to blender and blend on high until well mixed.

Garnish with whipped cream and fresh fruit.



ENJOY THE VIEW FROM OUR LICENSED PATIO

SPECIAL - Break up your shopping. Enjoy a coffee and muffin for \$1.95 till May 6.



PERENNIAL PICKS

JEAN ATKINSON – DIP. OF HORT.

Perennial of the Year 2005 – *Helleborus orientalis* (*H. hybridus* – Lenten Rose) zone 5

Hellebores have seen an increase in popularity among gardeners. I think everyone enjoys seeing these harbingers of spring popping up as the snow disappears.

Helleborus orientalis form vigorous clumps with leathery, evergreen leaves. A stem of nodding, cup shaped flowers in different shades of pink, white, cream or red appears in early spring. These are grown from seed so if you want a specific colour purchase the plant in flower.

They grow best in rich, well-drained loamy soil in partial to full shade. They are easy care for: all they require for maintenance is cutting off all the old leaves in late winter before the buds pop out of the ground. Do not fertilize them during the summer months as they have a dormant period. They also appreciate a good soaking in dry periods.

In our Cariboo climate mulching is a must. Run over your leaves with your lawn mower in fall. Rake this fine leaf mulch over your hellebores and other tender plants as a winter mulch. Resist the temptation to remove the leaf mulch in the spring as it will retain the moisture in the ground and eventually decompose and fertilize the plants.

New Perennials for 2005 – These are only a few.....see our amazing selection for yourself.

Campanula garganica ‘Dickson’s Gold’ 15cm Sun- partial shade Zone 4

Bright golden-chartreuse leaves and loose clusters of lavender blue flowers make this a unique addition to the rock garden. Protect from hot sun and provide regular moisture.

Echinacea ‘Mango Meadowbrite’ 60 cm Full sun Zone 3

The world of coneflowers is changing with many exciting new cultivars. These large yellow –orange blooms with green foliage also have an orange tea scent.

Echinacea indica ‘Double Decker’ 100 cm Full sun Zone 3

This unique coneflower with a layer of rosy pink petals sandwiching the cone is outstanding. Excellent for cut flowers. (Limited supply)



**HELLEBORUS
ORIENTALIS**



**CAMPANULA GARGANICA
‘DICKSON’S GOLD’**



**ECHINACEA ‘MANGO
MEADOWBRITE’**

SPECIAL - 6 pack of 3.5" perennials 12.95 (Regular 16.95 - 19.95) till May 6

Gaillardia x grandiflora 'Fanfare' **50 cm** **Full sun** **Zone 2**

One of my favorites for cutting. This new variety produces distinctive blooms in a circlet of perfectly miniature red and yellow trumpets. Excellent for those hot, dry areas.

Heuchera hyb. 'Lime Rickey' **20 cm** **Sun- shade** **Zone 4**

The frosted lime green ruffled leaves add an exotic punch to any container or garden.

Ligularia auromaculata **60 cm** **Sun – partial shade** **Zone 3**

The irregular bright yellow spots on the green round leaves give this plant its name- the Leopard plant. Ligularia are moisture-loving plants well suited for streams or ponds.



**GAILLARDIA X
GRANDIFLORA 'FANFARE'**



**HEUCHERA HYB.
'LIME RICKEY'**



**LIGULARIA
AUROMACULATA**

ASTILBE

The frothy flower heads of astilbe provide a colorful display in the shady border. This small genus has many species that come in a range of colours, flowering times and heights. The seasons roughly fall from EARLY (June), MID (July) and LATE (August) so you can easily extend the blooming season by growing different varieties.

Astilbes require moist soil in partial to full shade. Adding peat moss and compost to the soil will help to retain moisture. Their worst enemy is dryness. The margins of the foliage will turn brown and whole leaves may wither and die early. They will not grow in the dry shade beneath conifers. All the varieties below are hardy in zone 3.

Remove the faded flower spikes and tired looking leaves throughout the season. The taller types are heavy feeders so fertilize them in early spring and after blooming.

Bressingham Beauty: Rich apricot-pink over dark green foliage. 90 cm EARLY- MID

Fanal: Very popular variety with deep maroon-red narrow spikes. 60 cm EARLY-MID

Snowdrift: Frosty white plumes on fern like foliage. 60 cm EARLY- MID

Elizabeth van Veen: *NEW* Thick plumes of raspberry red flowers. Maroon tinted, bronze – green foliage. 60 cm. MID SEASON

Sprite: Spidery plumes of soft pink, bronze foliage. Excellent for massing. 30 cm LATE. *Perennial of the Year 1994*

Red Charm: Excellent specimen in the fall garden. Cascading plumes of bright cherry red. 75 cm. LATE

Pumila: More sun and drought tolerant than other varieties. Violet pink plumes, profuse Bloomer. Compact creeping growth habit makes it an excellent ground cover.

Taquetti Superba: Tall vigorous grower with blue –purple spikes. 80 cm LATE

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS: Astilbes, Hosta and Ferns – Mix and enjoy

SPECIAL - Selected one gallon Astilbe - only 4.95 (Regular 7.95) till May 6.



Extend the Gardening Season

PETER JOSEPHY

At the time of this writing (October 2004), many annuals are still out in full bloom, and I don't understand why many people rip them out come the first week of September.

Sure, the weather *can* be a bit erratic in the Cariboo. Two dates in particular stand out in my feeble mind; the 10th of April 1951 and the 11th of April 2004, Easter Sunday, when we returned to Quesnel from our winter home.

On the 10th of April, 1951 the birds were singing, the grass was green, the orchards were in bloom and the sun was shining in Vernon from whence I came. In Quesnel a blizzard was blowing, two feet of snow remained and the streets were yet to be paved. Never have I seen as dismal looking a place, before or since. In contrast, this April 11th couldn't have been more perfect. The weather was warm and sunny. We had our dinner outside and the annual Easter egg hunt on the lawn!



The red plumes of Celosia & the silver foliage of Dusty Miller add to the fall landscape

More often than not, we have a lot of nice weather in September and October to enjoy our gardens – sometimes into November. With proper care, annuals could last another month or so. Some, like petunias and snaps will stand some frost.



FLOWERING KALE – Colour intensifies as temperature becomes cooler.

Perhaps one should plant a mixture of hardy and tender annuals with this in mind. The city of Edmonton has decided to plant perennials instead of annuals to save money, as they would not have to plant all these annuals every spring. Perhaps a combination of annuals, perennials and shrubs would merit consideration to ensure continuous bloom. Late bloomers like Aster, Mums, Flowering Kale etc... should be used much more.

As far as Quesnel's famous mile long petunia bed is concerned, I hope they never change it.

SPECIAL - Spring Cleanup of odds & sods. Perennials shrubs & trees. Save up to 70%.



MOONLIGHT GARDEN

ROBIN CARIFELLE

In today's hectic lifestyle, taking some time out and relaxing in the garden can often become overshadowed by work commitments, groceries, laundry & being the family chauffeur. For most people, the only relaxation time they have is late in the evening when dinner is finished and the dishes are done. By creating a moonlight garden, you can maximize the enjoyment of your yard in the twilight and evening hours.

Moonlight gardens (or white gardens) combine pale coloured flowers and silver foliage to reflect the light of the moon as well as fragrant foliage and flowers to delight the senses.

Location:

Moonlight gardens should be located close to a house or patio to get the most enjoyment out of it. The garden should receive at least six hours of sun a day as most of the plants will benefit from a sunny exposure. You also want to make sure that it is in an area that's not shaded by trees so that the moonlight will hit it to create the desired effect. It is a good idea to take a walk around in the moonlight to spot the best location.

Plants:

White and pale coloured flowers and foliage will be highlighted by the moonlight, causing them to almost glow in the pale light. There are also many plants whose fragrance is intensified in the evening. These include Evening Primrose, Evening Scented Stock, and White Nicotiana to name a few. Fragrant foliage should not be overlooked either. Scented thymes make a nice addition to garden paths as they emit a nice fragrance when bruised or brushed against. Take care when planting your garden that you keep the different shades of white separated by green foliage. Ivory flowers will tend to look dingy against pure white flowers.

Some plant choices are as follows:

Datura • Evening Primrose • Evening Scented Stock • Four o' Clocks • Moonflower • White Nicotiana • Alyssum • White Cosmos • White Nancy Lamium • Star Jasmine • Calla Lily • White Impatiens • Artemisia • Dusty Miller • White 'David' Phlox • Gooseneck Loosestrife • Foxglove • Lamb's Ear • Silver Thyme • Bridal Wreath Spirea • 'Mme. Lemoine' or 'Beauty of Moscow' Lilac • White Roses • Ivy • 'Moon Shadow' Sunflower

Added Elements:

- ☆ Outdoor lighting – Indirect lighting can help highlight your garden particularly on cloudy nights
- ☆ Water – a small pool to reflect the moonlight can be a nice addition
- ☆ Patio Furniture – Be sure to include a bench or other place to sit and reap the benefits of your labour
- ☆ Chimney or outdoor firepit – The soft glow of a fire can do wonders to illuminate the soft palette that you have chosen. It also beneficial in keeping the chill of cooler evenings at bay.

SPECIAL - White Alyssum - 99¢ a basket till May 6



UNDERGROUND IRRIGATION

ROY JOSEPHY, G.S.C. – DIP. OF HORT.

Automatic in ground sprinkler systems became popular in Quesnel in the late 70's. Today many homes in Quesnel have this labour and water saving equipment. Systems can be installed at any time as trenchers and vibratory plows make short work of installation on existing landscapes with minimal visible wounds. The technological advances in timers and sprinkler heads have made the systems more efficient, reliable, and user friendly than ever before. The following is a brief crash course to help you understand how a basic system works.

A typical irrigation system consists of a timer, which controls the zone valves in sequence for the preset amount of time per zone; the water supply mainline with backflow prevention and a location to hook up a compressor for winter blowout, zone valves, popup sprinklers on lawn areas, fixed shrub sprinklers and or micro jet sprinklers, and a zone of drip irrigation to water hanging baskets patio tubs etc.

Most timers are solid state computer type or a combination of mechanical dials and electronic digital readouts. Typically they will provide at least two programs so you can water some areas a certain day of week or on a fixed every day to every 14th day, while watering other areas on a separate schedule. This is useful to water lawns more frequently than shrubs and hanging baskets more frequently than lawns etc. Timers range in cost from about \$90.00 for a very simple 4 zone controller to about \$450.00 for a 12

zone controller with as many functions as you could ever use. Timers need a 120 volt power supply, they send the 24 volt signal to the solenoid via low voltage wire.

The water supply will depend on your situation. If you are on a well, check with your well driller and pump supplier to see what the capacity is in US gallons per minute at 60PSI. Most City water supplies are 8-10 gallons per minute providing your pipes are a minimum ¾" and are not scaled. 8-15 GPM is ideal for most residential systems. The bigger the supply, the fewer zones as you can put more sprinklers on a zone. To prevent contamination from your yard to the water supply, a backflow prevention device must be used. We use PVC pipe for our installations because of its higher pressure ratings and ease of installation. You must clear all water from the lines in winter as it will shatter if water freezes in the pipe. Use ¾" pipe for supplies under 10 GPM and 1" pipe for 10-16 GPM. Pipe should be buried at least 8" deep.

Automatic valves are controlled by a 24 volt solenoid. We use 1" valves for most situations as cost savings of using a ¾" valve is minimal. A flow control feature is optional and it allows you to use it as a manual valve or to control the flow to the zones. It is a good idea to use flow control valves, and to adjust them so the sprinklers just operate properly, doing this helps to prevent water hammer. Solenoid valves cost about \$35.00 each.

SPECIAL - 20% off all irrigation supplies till May 6

Toro pop up lawn sprinklers are either fixed spray to a radius of up to 16' or gear drive rotors with a radius to 45'. The spray heads come with a variety of nozzles to cover most shapes, while the rotors are adjustable from 30 degrees to full circle. It is important not to use both types of heads on the same zone because they have very different precipitation rates.

Simply put, you can put as many heads on a zone as the water supply and piping size will allow.

For example, if you have a sprinkler that uses 2 GPM and you have an 8 GPM supply, you can put 4 sprinklers on a zone.

Friction loss calculations should be done to ensure adequate head pressure.

Heads should always be spaced to provide head to

head coverage. Spray heads use ½ to 4 GPM while rotors use 1-9 GPM.

Micro jet systems are very simple and have the advantages of low water usage, low cost, and minimal over spray. Nozzles water a 3-6' radius while using as little as 5 gallons per hour. The cost for the nozzle and necessary accessories is less than \$2.00. Drip irrigation has the same benefits as micro jets. Drippers use ½ to 2 gallons per hour and cost about 50 cents each. A ½" poly supply line will supply about 240 ½ GPH drippers. Make sure you use pressure compensating emitters to provide even watering. Proper filtration is very important and a pressure regulator is usually required. The optimum pressure for drip is about 20 PSI. Drip and micro irrigation is installed about 2" deep or on the surface to

make it easy to check the proper operation.

In case you are now feeling like an expert and have decided to throw your own system in, its time to read the fine print. The above information is only meant to give you a basic idea of how a sprinkler system works, it is not everything you need to know.



Pulling Irrigation lines for Fairway #2

For a project to be successful the initial design and layout is very important and you should consult with an irrigation designer or installer. Having a scaled plot plan is very helpful with notes on various site conditions such as wet or dry areas, hot spots etc.

Richbar Nursery

can provide you with a design and supplies to do your own system or we can also quote a complete installation.

A properly installed system will save water and time - both precious commodities. Get more out of summer with a Toro in-ground sprinkler system.

**See page 4 for information on
our Drip Irrigation Seminar**



ANNE'S ANNUALS

ANNE JOSEPHY

2005 marks our 49th year of business at Richbar Nursery, which totals to an estimated 285 combined years of growing experience with four generations of family members and employees.

We're striving for the best of the best: Proven Winners, Danziger, Proven Selections, Simply Beautiful, The Flower Fields, Brocade Geraniums....

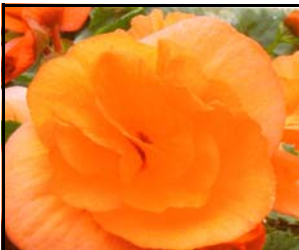
Long before we start a new gardening season, decisions are made. What's new? What varieties performed well in the past? Colour trends and more.

Below are a few of the new annuals & planting combinations available at Richbar Nursery for 2005.

Begonia x hiemalis 'Salmon Coral' Solenia Begonia, Salmon Coral Height: 15-25 cm.
 Full to Part Sun. New light salmon coral color Solenia has a mounding habit and prospers even under high heat conditions. Great in hanging baskets, containers and outdoor gardens. Also available in 'Light Yellow'.

Mecordonia acuminata 'Gold Flake' Axilflower, Gold Flake Height: 15-25 cm
 Full Sun to Part Shade. Bright yellow single blooms, with green foliage. Foliage contrasts nicely with flowers in hanging baskets and containers. Attracts hummingbirds, butterflies and bees.

Coleus 'Pineapple Sun' Coleus, Pineapple Sun Height: 30-45 cm
 Full Sun to Part Shade. A hybrid coleus with ruby scalloped edges on chartreuse foliage. Brilliant colors in sunny locations. Frost sensitive. Clip off seed head to prevent coleus from dying. Good in containers, hanging baskets and as a house plant.



**SOLENIA BEGONIA
'SALMON CORAL'**



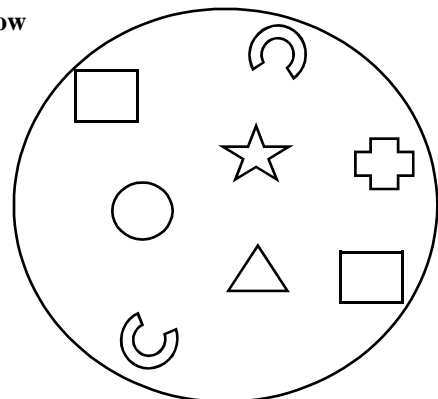
**MECORDONIA
'GOLD FLAKE'**



**COLEUS
'PINEAPPLE'**

Planting Combination for Sun Using Hot Colours of Red & Yellow

☆	Tri Color Geranium
○	Coleus 'Pineapple'
△	Solenia
□	Verbena 'Lanai Royal Purple'
☞	Calibrachoa 'Superbells Red'
+	Mecordonia 'Gold Flake'



Calibrachoa 'Callie Rose Star'

Calibrachoa, Callie Rose Star Trailing

A trailing mini petunia with a single, cream and rose star colored flower. Early flowering with tight full blooms that remain open 24/7. Mounding habit works well in hanging baskets and large containers.

Dianthus 'Can Can Scarlet'

Carnation, Can Can Scarlet Height: 30-35 cm.

Full Sun to Part Sun. A short, bushy growing carnation with 5 cm bright scarlet fully dbl. blooms. Abundant flowers with a strong spicy fragrance. Heat tolerant. Good in gardens, containers & for cut flowers.

Geranium brocade 'Indian Dunes'

Geranium, Indian Dunes Height: 20 cm

Full Sun to Part Shade. Round salmon blooms. Leaves are chartreuse with a red center zone. Leaves are scented making them great when they are dried for sachets or exotic recipes.

Pelargonium x asperum 'Grey Plymouth Lady'

Scented Geranium, Lady Plymouth Height 30-60 cm.

Full Sun to Part Shade. Rose pink single blooms, leaves are a green with thin white edges. Plant has a compact growth habit. Use in hanging baskets, containers, as a ground cover or house plant.



**CALIBRACHOA
'CALLIE ROSE STAR'**








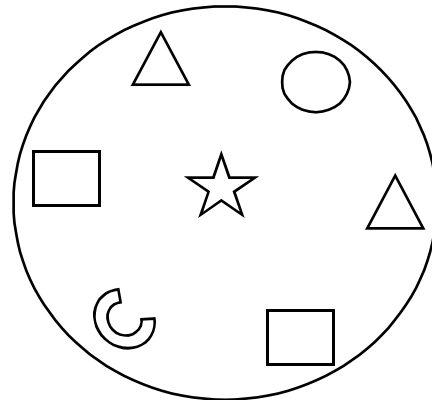
**CARNATION
'CAN CAN SCARLET'**



**GERANIUM
'INDIAN DUNES'**

Cool Colour Planting for Sun

	Helichrysum petiolare Large Leaf Silver
	Coleus 'Dark Star'
	Verbena 'Escapade Bright Eye'
	Ipomea 'Black Heart'
	Snapdragon 'Sultan Light Pink Trailing'



**SCENTED GERANIUM
'LADY PLYMOUTH'**



**SNAPDRAGON 'SULTAN
LIGHT PINK TRAILING'**



**VERBENA 'ESCAPADE
BRIGHT EYE'**

SPECIAL - Annual 6 pack combinations - 9.95, regular 11.95 till May 6



TROPICAL RETREAT

ROBIN CARIFELLE

By combining a few key elements, you can have the pleasure of retreating to your own tropical oasis, without having to book time off of work or sit in a space confining plane for eight hours. Whether you choose to transform your whole backyard, or a small seating area, you can accomplish the look you want by layering colour and texture to create a lush backdrop of greenery highlighted with vibrant punches of colour.

There are an overwhelming variety of plants carried by local nurseries, so mix it up and don't limit yourself to planting the 'safe' zone 1-4 plants. Higher zoned plants can be used as annuals or else over-wintered in containers to use again next season. Houseplants such as the Cut-leaf Philodendron will make a lush backdrop to your outdoor area for the summer months, and then can be brought back indoors for winter. Care should be taken to first acclimatize houseplants to full sun areas to avoid sunburn.

When choosing plants, choose bold foliage in a variety of different textures and colours. Remember to have lots of different heights and don't forget to do an under-story planting of creeping vines or low-growing plants. Don't forget, you want jungle wild, not perfectly formal. Below is a list of some of the tropical plants carried by Richbar Nursery this year to help get your creative juices flowing.

Bougainvillea

Bougainvillea

Zone 9

Height: climbing *Spread:* climbing *Exposure:* Full Sun. Widely grown in the more tropical climates such as Mexico and Hawaii, the Bougainvillea is a vigorous growing woody vine that has clusters of showy, flower bracts in various shades of red, purple or orange. Plant in a pot with an attached trellis to use it to its best effect. Bring this evergreen plant indoors for winter.



BOUGAINVILLEA



BANANAS



NEW ZEALAND FLAX

Musa acuminata 'Zebrina

Blood Banana

Zone 10

Height: 8-10 ft *Spread:* 6' *Exposure:* Full Sun. Broad blue-green leaves with dark red striping. Yellow flowers with reddish purple flower bracts bloom in summer. Can bear small sweet bananas. An ideal landscape plant that makes a tropical splash wherever it's used. Bring indoors for winter.

SPECIAL - Sunshine #1 potting mix, 3.8 cubic foot bale - 18.95 till May 6

Musa 'Basjoo' Japanese Fibre Banana Zone 5
Height: 12 ft *Spread:* 8ft. *Exposure:* Full Sun – Part shade. Native of the Ryukyu Islands of Japan, 'Basjoo' is the hardiest of all bananas. Long, bright green leaves. Will fruit when ten feet tall or when it has about 35 leaves. Use in a container and over-winter in a cool (not cold) area. You can also try to over-winter outdoors (can tolerate –28 Celsius if mulched heavily) by cutting down to 2 feet and mulching. Requires lots of moisture and fertilizer. Overwinter indoors. 15

Canna x generalis Canna Lily Zone 8
Height: 1-8 ft, depending on species. *Spread:* *Exposure:* Full Sun to Moderate Shade Cannas offer exotic tropical foliage and a wide range of floral colours. Colours range from deep red, red, pink, salmon pink, orange, yellow, pale yellow, and mixed colours. Cannas flower from mid spring through the end of autumn. If you think that their large, exotic looking leaves resemble bananas, you'd be right. Cannas are kin to bananas and ginger. Some of the most striking cultivars have red or variegated foliage. Dig rhizomes out in fall and over-winter in a cool (not freezing) area.

Zantedeschia Calla Lily Zone 8
Height: 2 ft. *Spread:* 1 ft. *Exposure:* Sun or Shade. Native to South Africa. Tuberous rooted, herbaceous plant with large, arrow-shaped leaves. Flower spathes come in various shades of pink, yellow and white. All are very striking, and even when not in flower, the tropical looking, spear shaped leaves make a lush statement. Lift tubers in fall and store over winter in cool (not freezing) area.

Phormium New Zealand Flax Zone 8
Height: 3 ft. *Spread:* 4-6 ft. *Exposure:* Full Sun. Long arching leaves in a variety of colours add unique colour and texture to the landscape. Cut leaves can also be used to great effect in floral arrangements. Drought tolerant. Overwinter indoors as a houseplant.

Catalpa ovata Chinese Catalpa Zone 3
Height: 50 ft. *Spread:* 30 ft. *Exposure:* Native to China. Large heart-shaped leaves are six to ten inches long. Fast growing tree with white orchid like blooms are followed by slender seed pods that are ten to eighteen inches long. Winter hardy.

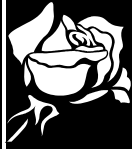
Ficus carica 'Desert King' Desert King Fig Zone 7
Height: 8-20' *Spread:* 8-20' *Exposure:* Full Sun. Fruiting fig with green skin and very sweet strawberry flesh. Excellent container plant in cooler climates. Coarse textured plant with a rapid growth rate. Thick leathery leaves are deeply lobed and are five to nine inches long and broad. Fruit is excellent for eating fresh or in preserves. Overwinter indoors.

Jasminum polyanthum Pink Jasmine Zone 8
Height: Climbing *Spread:* Climbing *Exposure:* Full Sun. Fast-growing evergreen vine prized for its spectacular spring display of pink buds opening to intensely fragrant pinkish-white flowers in early summer. Overwinter indoors.

Ricinis communis Castor Bean Annual
Height: 8 ft. *Spread:* 6 ft. *Exposure:* Full Sun Native to Africa, the Castor Bean has large deeply lobed leaves with 5-11 toothed lobes. Green leaves are often red or bronze tinted when young. Flowers appear in clusters at the end of the main stem in late summer. The fruit consists of an oblong spiny red pod that contains poisonous seeds resembling a pinto bean.

Other plants to try include the large leaved Colocasia (Taro or Elephant Ears), Egyptian Papyrus, Ferns, Brugmansia (Datura or Angel's Trumpet), ivy, and palms to name but a few.

Get Great Value With Richbar Nursery Quality



ALLERGY FREE GARDENING

ROBIN CARIFELLE

My family is generally not prone to following trends or keeping abreast of what's hot and what's not, unless it involves vegetation of some kind. So, it would only make sense that at least *some* of my family members would jump on the newest gardening sensation that has taken the world by storm. Plant allergies.

According to the Thomas Ogren, author of *Allergy-Free Gardening* and *Safe Sex in the Garden*, the drastic rise in plant related allergies can be attributed in large part to our fixation with a 'clean' or litter-less landscape. Unfortunately, with our desire to keep our sidewalks and lawns free from messy fruit and seed drop, we've encouraged the proliferation of all male, pollen-laden trees and shrubs in our landscapes.

Although we can't control what our neighbours plant, we can take steps to ensure that our own environment is as allergy free as possible.

1. Keep plants healthy and insect free. Insects themselves create allergy problems, particularly indoors, as they shed old skin creating insect dander. In addition to this, mold can also grow on the 'honeydew' that insects such as aphids and mealybugs secrete.
2. Limit 'seedless' or male cultivar plants in your yard.
3. As in nature, keep your landscape as diverse as possible. This would entail having a good mix of plants, which often translates into fewer insects, molds and fungus.
4. If you must have high allergen producing plants (willows, olives, male yews), locate them towards the back of your property, away from windows, patios, etc...
5. Plant vegetation in the right location. Right exposure will help keep your plants healthy and limit mold and fungus spores.
6. Plant more perfect-flowered plants [flowers that have a pistil (female) and stamens (male)] such as apples, roses or fuchsia. The pollen from these plants is generally not wind borne, as it doesn't have very far to go for pollination to occur.
7. Replace high allergen producing plants with a low allergen alternative (visit www.allegra.com/starting_low_allergen_garden.jsp for ideas)

Some low allergen producing plants include: fir trees (abies), hollyhock (alcea), snapdragons and apricots to name but a few, and remember, although females may be a little bit more maintenance, they're definitely worth the effort.

SPECIAL

Snapdragons
99¢ basket
Till May 6.
Great frost
tolerant,
allergy free
annual

ARBOR DAY SPECIAL - 20% off all trees April 29.



Six Packs

Richbar Nursery is taking the guess work out of creating stunning planting combinations with our new six packs.

Not only do six packs make gardening easier for the novice, but they also make shopping for plants more convenient and affordable for the expert.

We have many ready-to-go six packs for annual container combinations as well as many perennial combinations. Some of the perennial combinations available are as follows:

- ◆ Deer & Drought tolerant
- ◆ Mixed Hostas
- ◆ Groundcovers
- ◆ Cutting Garden
- ◆ Mixed Succulents
- ◆ Perennials to attract Hummingbirds and butterflies
- ◆ Daisy Collection
- ◆ Rockery Collection



One of our popular annual six pack combinations

SPECIAL - 6 pack of annuals 9.95, 6 pack Perennials 12.95 till May 6



GOLF COURSE

ROY JOSEPHY, G.S.C. – DIP. OF HORT.

Richbar Golf and Gardens is Quesnel's newest golf course and is unique in both its layout and the fact that it shares its site with Quesnel's most established garden centre and nursery.

Established in 1957, the nursery features a park like setting with mature landscapes. In May, the orchard and spring flowers are in full bloom, while the fall shows off brilliant coloured wild and domestic trees and shrubs.

In the fall of 2001, proceedings were initiated to join the long established nursery with an entirely new venture. The great gardening pastime was soon to be co-joined to another great pastime. Golf.

The course is a nine hole, executive course with many of the challenges common to a championship course. The course plays as a par 33 at about 2400 yards from the blue tee. The holes are separated by native timber, and landscape plantings giving the golfer a more intimate experience than is often typical. Water comes into play on three holes, and some greens are slightly protected by the odd mature 100 foot fir, adding character and challenge to the course.

Our newly seeded practice green will soon be ready for you to perfect your putting skills before heading out on the course. A virtual tour of our 9 hole golf course can be taken at www.richbarnursery.com.

Phone 255-4653 for tee times. That's 255-GOLF

	9 HOLES	ADDITIONAL 9 MON-FRI	ADDITIONAL 9 SAT-SUN
ADULT	\$17.00	\$6.00	\$8.00
5 PUNCH PASS	\$75.00		
10 PUNCH PASS	\$145.00		
20 PUNCH PASS	\$260.00		
SEASON'S PASS	\$560.00	\$360 FOR SPOUSE	
SENIOR	\$15.30	\$5.40	\$7.20
5 PUNCH PASS	\$67.50		
10 PUNCH PASS	\$130.00		
20 PUNCH PASS	\$234.00		
SEASON'S PASS	\$500.00	\$320 FOR SPOUSE	
STUDENT FULL TIME (UNDER 25)			
SEASON'S PASS	\$175.00		
18 AND UNDER	\$11.00	\$4.00	\$4.00
5 PUNCH PASS	\$50.00		
10 PUNCH PASS	\$95.00		
FAMILY (Parents & 2 or more kids)			
SEASON'S PASS	\$1,150.00		
CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$4.00

HOLE #1 – 150 YARDS, PAR 3

Start your game off with a challenging play over one of the larger ponds on the Richbar Golf & Gardens 9-hole course.

**HOLE #3 – 160 YARDS, PAR 3**

Short, but challenging. This hole is bordered by water on three sides. A favourite for trying for that elusive hole in one. →

HOLE #4 – 160 YARDS, PAR 3

Make yet another play over water on the fourth hole or choose to play it safe by teeing off from the other side of the bridge. The choice is yours.

**MEN'S NIGHT**

**TUESDAY'S
BEGINNING MAY 3**

Phone Mike Petreny
@ 747 – 4674 or
Mike Lorenz @
747 – 4487
for details

Men's Night Pass for Tuesdays from May 3 to Season End. \$250 - inc. back 9 when applicable



THE LAWN RANGER

VANCE JOSEPHY

Dear Lawn Ranger:

I purchased an older house three years ago and every year I try to get the grass in the front yard to thicken up. I spend a lot of time and money on it and it never fills in or thickens up like it should. It gets a lot of sun and I fertilize and water regularly. Is there anything that I can do to help it without using herbicides? Please help me Lawn Ranger.

Signed, Lawnless in Quesnel

25-4-10 SLOW RELEASE FERTILIZER WITH IRON & TRACE
ELEMENTS – \$23/25 KG BAG (REG. 29.95) TILL MAY 6

Dear Lawnless:

I thought that you could use some tips on grass as well as an overview of what you can do to ensure a green and healthy lawn that you can be proud to show off to your friends and neighbours.

First we will start with dethatching. Well first, what is thatch? Thatch is the layer of dead grass that is on top of the root zone. Although a small layer of thatch can be beneficial in reducing soil compaction, moderating soil temperature, and limiting the loss of water, too much thatch can restrict water and air movement in the soil. This ultimately restricts the root growth. Disease and fungus tend to be worse in heavily thatched areas. Dethatching is the removal of all that dead grass, and is best done in early spring to give your lawn a good start for the season.

In the Quesnel area, our soil tends to be heavy in clay, and can become very compact over time. This compaction also limits root growth as well as the percolation of water through the soil. We can help remedy this problem by aerating. Aeration is the process of pulling soil plugs out of the ground, (this explains all of those little holes and plugs that you see in parks and fields). By aerating your lawn, you allow oxygen and water to reach the root zone easier. Leaving the plugs on is an extra benefit because when the soil in them acts as a light topdressing.

A proper mowing schedule is also a good method for weed control. How often you mow, as well as to what height, depends on watering, fertilizer, and weather. Mowing the grass too short in hot spells will waste a lot of water and stress the plant. Mow more frequently and consider leaving your clippings on. As a general rule, 2-2½" is a nice height for lawns. Clipping removal can significantly reduce soil nutrients available, so it may be necessary to increase fertilizer applications 25 to 50 percent, especially nitrogen. An application in the Spring and late summer with a commercial grade, slow release fertilizer such as 25-4-10 is generally all your lawn should require. A slow release fertilizer can be used a little more heavily as you have less problems with burning, and less frequently as it fertilizes over a longer period of time.

Use the right type of grass that is adapted for your area. Most packaged lawn seed comes in mixtures of three or more different kinds, and are blended specifically for sun or shade. The right mixture for the right area will make your lawn more resistant to pests and problems. Richbar Nursery carries customized seed blends that are specifically suited to our Cariboo climates.

Last but not least, be water wise. There are many ways to ensure that your lawn is receiving adequate amounts of moisture. Adjusting the frequency of your watering schedule (by now, most of us are aware that we should water in the mornings) depending on the weather, and watching for any visible signs of stress is the best way. If your footprints don't spring back up when you walk on it, water is needed. Water to the full depth of the root zone, or until a tuna can is nearly full.

If you try all this and you still have problems, having your soil tested can eliminate a lot of guess work. Never add lime until you test your soil. These are just some of the basic things that everybody should be on the lookout for if you want to treat your lawn right, and hopefully all of your neighbours will soon be *green* with envy.

The Lawn Ranger.

LAWN SEED – 20% OFF TILL MAY 6



GARDEN DESIGN SEMINARS

Surround yourself with flowers this spring – spend Monday evenings at Richbar Nursery with a new series of GARDEN DESIGN SEMINARS. Join renowned garden designers at the Richbar Nursery Restaurant and tour enchanting gardens through slide presentations and learn the steps to garden design success.

1. Garden Style

Monday, May 2

Join garden designer Stephanie Waring on a tour of garden styles through a colourful slide presentation. View famous gardens from around the world as well as outstanding local gardens for inspiration. Discover the style best suited to you and learn how to create lower maintenance gardens.

2. Garden Structure

Monday, May 9

Garden designer Stephanie Waring discusses how to add structure to your garden. Tour international and local gardens through slides and explore the use of garden structure. Learn how garden structure can define outdoor rooms or create captivating focal points.

3. How to Make Your Own Garden Plan

Monday, May 16

Learn tips-of-the-trade from garden designer Stephanie Waring. Through a series of exercises, Stephanie will help you define your garden priorities. Then through demonstrations and case studies, she will explain how you can create your own landscape plan.

4. Ask a Garden Designer

Monday, May 30

Bring your garden design questions to local designers Stephanie Waring, Michelle Johnsrude and Jean Atkinson. Get expert advice and learn from other gardeners and their design problems in a question and answer session. Bring plans or photographs of your garden if possible to illustrate your garden design concerns.

FEE: \$25 each session

TIME: Monday Evenings, 7:00 – 8:30

LOCATION: Richbar Nursery Restaurant

REGISTRATION: Richbar Nursery – 747-2915

24 Carrot Café will be open during all seminars



A YEAR IN THE GARDEN

BARENDINA WIERSMA

Experts tell us that the garden should be cleaned up in the fall. In order to prevent the spread of disease, roses should be stripped clean of leaves, dead branches removed, and, of course, leaves should be raked up and composted. Good idea, maybe, but not mine.

Though not lacking in enthusiasm, and being a great believer in composting, I'm a rather slap-happy gardener and prefer to do the clean-up in spring. When once more, after a long Cariboo winter, nature is awakening. When the air is balmy, geese are honking overhead and the first spring bulbs are appearing, getting out in the yard is pure delight, and I enjoy being on my hands and knees in the cranesbill (*Geranium 'Biokovo'*) patch, being close to mother earth, sniffing the delicious pungent smell of the more or less evergreen foliage and, after a good clean-up (followed by a generous top-dressing of compost), the geranium will soon make a lush full-bodied groundcover again without becoming too invasive.

Admittedly, just now (beginning of March) the place still looks a mess. So, I set to work removing last year's perennial growth and dead annuals and let someone else do the raking. Early spring is also the time to have the fruit trees sprayed and pruned as well as the lawn aerated, de-thatched and fertilized. Perennials can be planted out, though some varieties imported from the coast may still need some protection from night frost. I plant some pansies and violas – already in bloom at the nursery – in the semi-shade on the North side of the drive so that their beautiful faces and lovely perfume can be enjoyed when walking by.

As for planting annuals, there's a full moon on the twenty-third of May this year, which also happens to be the Queen Victoria Holiday. The old timers say, "Don't plant until after the long weekend (or the 24th of May)", still, there are exceptions. Sweet Peas should be planted early in well-dug soil. Also, mindful of hot dry summers of recent years, I plan to plant hardier, frost tolerant varieties of annuals such as petunias, snapdragons, alyssum and calendulas early this year to give them a well-developed root system before the summer heat. Though buying tender plants before the long May weekend – when there is still a good selection – seems a good idea, it may be wise to keep an eye on the thermometer before planting them out. Meanwhile, do not keep plants in the house. Outside during the day, a more protected place at night.

By early to mid June, most of the spring flowering bulbs have finished blooming; seedheads should be removed, narcissus foliage (which feeds the bulbs) can be tied up in little bunches to make it less unsightly. At this time, I also transplant the dahlias I've started in gallon pots in the greenhouse more than a month ago, as well as some other annuals. I fertilize, do the necessary weeding, mulch to discourage the weeds, lay down soaker hoses to facilitate the watering and voila! Next, me and my doggie stretch out on the lawn. And, as we (me and my doggie) gaze up at the sky and watch the lazy clouds drift by, we sigh a happy sigh, for now comes the time to enjoy the fruits of our labour.

But alas, all too quickly summer speeds by. Before the first frost hits, it's time to dig up the dahlia roots again. Apples need harvesting, maybe we want to plant some more spring flowering bulbs and, I believe that in this country, rather than worry about the leaves, it's much more important to ensure that plants go well-watered into winter. Then water hoses need disconnecting, etc... etc.... Enough gardening for the year!

Happy to be back in the house, I notice that the neighbourhood dogs are happy too. I see them smiling as – no longer threatened by my inhospitable presence outside – they confidently trot past my window. For me, the dogs provide a further reason to leave the clean up till spring.

Frost tolerant Annuals snapdragons and white alyssum - 99¢ / basket till May 6

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT

ROBIN CARIFELLE

Richbar Nursery works hard to maintain a pest free environment by choosing to use environmentally sensitive control methods whenever possible.

In the greenhouse, beneficial insects are used to control any pests that may emerge. New plants coming into the greenhouse are immersed in a bath of *Safer's Soap* before being potted up. This important step helps keep the greenhouse plants from being invaded by any pests that may have come in on new plants. This is also a step that homeowners should use when bringing any new plants into their houses.



One of the Three Growing Houses at Richbar Nursery

On our golf course, *Sustaine* is the fertilizer of choice. Due to our abundance of ponds on our nine hole golf course, we are very conscious of the impact any fertilizers we use may have on the environment. *Sustaine* is a natural organic fertilizer comprised of composted turkey waste. Weeds on the fairways are kept to a minimum by improving the turf growing conditions such

as aeration and maintaining a proper fertilizer schedule.

All trees and shrubs are sprayed with Lime Sulfur in the spring to rid them of any overwintering pests or diseases. Biological

insecticides such as *B.T.K.* and insecticides such as Sulfur and fatty acids are always preferable to insecticides of a more chemical nature.

Weeds are controlled around greenhouses and nursery stock as they are hosts to a multitude of insects. If you've ever brought a bouquet of daisies into the house you

know what I mean.

Let's all try to do our part to minimize our impact on the environment by trying some of the above methods to aid us. If you have any favorite methods of your own, let fellow gardeners know about them at www.richbarnursery.com on the Gardener's Chat Line

SPECIAL - Apply Dormant Oil Spray now to prevent insects & disease. - 7.95 till May 6

TWO GREAT PASTIMES ONE GREAT LOCATION



GREEN #2

YOUR GOLF & GARDEN SPECIALISTS

GARDEN CENTRE HOURS OF OPERATION: April: 9am – 6pm, May: 9am – 7pm,
June: 9am – 6pm, July to October 9am – 5pm

PHONE: (250) 747-2915 **TEE TIMES:** 255 4653 (255-GOLF) **FAX:** (250) 747-1309

ADDRESS: 3028 Red Bluff Rd., Quesnel B.C., V2J 6C6

WEBSITE: www.richbarnursery.com **email:** richbar@quesnelbc.com

SENIOR'S DAY – 10% off every Wednesday during the month of May.
No holds or layaways. Discount does not include concrete or stone products.