

We're Here to Help!

Visit us at Phelan Gardens to see great combinations in action. You will find that we use annuals, perennials, herbs, and even shrubs in our containers.

Our wide selection of Proven Winners (plants that have shown superior performance in international field trials) will give you endless options for your own creations.

Explore the world of contrast, color, and texture in creating your own container gardens OR simply select from our many containers.



Open Year-Round
7 days a week

4955 Austin Bluffs Parkway
80918 * 574-8058

www.phelangardens.com

- *local gardening information
- *upcoming classes & events
- *what's new at Phelan Gardens

Phelan's E-News

Our newsletter is now offered monthly via e-mail. Sign up and receive timely seasonal advice, growing tips, and advance notice of special events.

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Container Gardening

Accentuating your home with contained color and texture



Phelan Gardens

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Can't Contain Yourself?



Quiet messages are conveyed when beautiful container gardens accentuate entryways, patios, decks, or special retreat areas. By following a few simple tips you can create a unique and pleasing display to

enhance your home and landscape.

Use Appropriate Soil

Potting soil for containers should be light and porous. *Fertilome Ultimate Potting Soil* is a wonderful medium. It is light and fertilizer free, which gives you flexibility to feed your plants as they need it. Be careful of a chain store's brand of "Deluxe Potting Soil," as so often it is not so deluxe. Use fresh soil each year. Never use garden soil in containers. It is much too heavy, and has inadequate drainage and air circulation.

Consider using **polymers** in your containers at the time of planting to reduce the frequency of watering and overall drought stress to your plants. Make sure to mix them in at the root level of the soil and not on the surface.

Fertilize

You will need to fertilize plants in your containers to maximize blooms. We recommend using a slow release fertilizer incorporated at the time of planting (Osmocote/ Marine Cuisine), followed by a liquid feed once the plants have taken root and are actively growing.

Get Creative With Your Container

Some of the most interesting displays are planted in a variety of containers. Some suggestions include:

- antiques
- wheelbarrows
- hollowed out driftwood
- moss baskets
- ceramic pots
- window boxes
- clay figurines

Choose a style that best suits your situation and personality. For a large open area, use a 14" wide container or larger OR group several containers together to create a larger focal point. For smaller areas, containers that are 5"-12" wide are adequate.

Choose Appropriate Plants

Determine how much sun your container garden will receive over the course of the day and acquire plants with similar light requirements. If the location receives four hours or less of direct sun a day, think shade or part-shade loving plants. Five plus hours of sun should have you looking for the sun worshippers.

(see list at right)

Move Them Around

Containers have the bonus of being mobile. Use them as a way to spruce up an area of your garden that has temporarily lost its luster. Just move your containers around your garden throughout the season to add a pop of color where you need it most. *Note: Phelan's sells plant 'movers' (wheel castors for the bottom of your planters) to make easy work of moving your planters around your deck or patio.*

Annuals for Shade

Impatiens
Begonias
Coleus
Torenia
Vinca Vine
English Ivy
Dracaena
Peace Lilies (*and most tropicals*)
Pansies
Violas

Annuals for Hot Sun

Lantana
Nierembergia
Moss Rose
Calibrachoa
Geraniums
Petunias
Gerbera Daisy
Scaevola
Celosia
Dusty Miller
Marigolds
Grasses

