Hasting Plants

Spring 2021

We're well worth the drive!

Hours:

Mon- Sat 9 to 5 Closed Sunday

We are changing our hours a bit this year. Since Sunday had reduced hours, it was always an especially crowded day. We will continue to be closed on Sunday as we were last year to prevent overcrowding.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF HASTING PLANTS, LLC

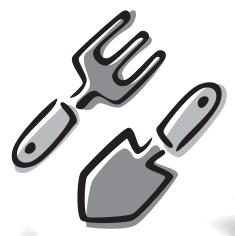
Hasting Plants is a seasonal greenhouse operation, specializing in annual and perennial flowers and vegetable plants. We feel we have one of the best selections in the area and try to live up to our slogan that "We're well worth the drive". We do not handle trees and shrubs, or do design or installation work. This leaves us more time to grow and produce the best selection of herbaceous plants for you. We are open for business from the middle of March until the middle of June (We actually start working in the greenhouses in January every year). The season might vary according to the weather. We grow almost all of our plants, which we feel is a great bonus for you in variety and quality.

TIMELINE

Just a few dates that hold true most every season: We **open** each year around **March 15** - give or take a few days depending on weather.

Onion Slips come in the first week of April
Newsletter mailed around 2nd week of April
Sweet Potato slips come in first week of May
"Specials" (Mixed Pots) are ready close to
Mother's Day

End of Season Sale starts around Memorial Day



At Hasting Plants we price our perennials with blue tags, and our annuals with white tags. We hope this helps prevent any confusion.



NOTES FROM NANCY

Wow! What do you say about a year like last year?????? We were just happy to survive it! In spite of all the stress and uncertainty, it ended up as one of my better years! Most of you know this, because we ran out of plants before we ran out of season, and closed a week early. I certainly appreciated how patient you were with our system of only allowing 10-12 cars to shop at a time. Some of you patiently waited up to an hour or longer, and then, were so kind to tell us "It's fine...I didn't have anything else to do" or something similar. It was certainly an unusual year...one we hope never to experience again!

This year has been challenging from the beginning. The extreme cold weather in February as well as snow delayed both my plant shipments and workers. We have been working furiously to catch up and get things planted.

Our plans are to allow you to shop during our hours with no restrictions on customer numbers (no parking lot attendant or wait line). If you come and it is especially busy, it is your choice to shop or return at another time. We encourage those of you who are able to shop during the week to do so to leave Saturday available for those who only can shop on the weekend.

We have tweaked our hours a bit this year. We are streamlining the hours so they should be easier for you to remember – adding a couple and taking away a couple.

PLEASE NOTE!!!! CARD TRANSACTION CHANGES!

This year we have new cash registers and new credit card machines. We are using a new card processing system to help our small business with the ever-increasing card transaction fees. If you don't own a small business, you might not realize that the cash back and miles you earn on your cards comes from the small retailers' pockets, not the credit card companies. They make the deals with you and we have no say in it. This year we have a 3.5% fee on all card transactions – both debit and credit. This will help defray those costs for us. One advantage for you is that we can now accept all types of cards – even American Express.

You can avoid this fee by paying with cash or writing checks, so plan accordingly. Examples: On a \$50 sale, you would be charged \$51.75, \$100 sale would be \$103.50

LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE

We will not have Late Night again this year. Here is hoping we can resume it in 2022!

FACEBOOK MESSAGES

Facebook is a wonderful way to communicate, but I struggle every spring when I get messages through Facebook. During the day, I have no time to check and respond to messages. I cannot tell you how many times I have gotten home at the end of the day, sat down at the computer, and realized someone had asked a question wanting/needing an immediate answer. If your question is one that you need answered right away, please call the greenhouse (812-838-2164). It is much easier for me to get an answer back to you. I feel bad when I have missed responding in a timely fashion.

NEW IN THE BUILDING

Spartan Mosquito Eliminator is back! They have made a few changes; I think to avoid the labeling issues they had last year. This product starts working immediately (no 2-week delay). The box says it lasts 30 days, but they assure me it is still the 90 days you expect from the past version. Since it works immediately, they said you can wait until you begin to see mosquitos and you know it is time to switch the tubes out. Most everyone who has tried this is amazed and comes back to buy it the next year.

Buying for the store was a bit more challenging this year, since none of the shows were in person! BUT... that didn't stop me from going overboard once again! If you want wind spinners, we have lots of wind spinners! As always, there are limited numbers on each design, so if you see one you really like, you'd better buy it then. There are some (which are delayed right now), with bird shapes that fly around. One of my favorites (who am I kidding - they are all my favorites... I picked them out!) is like a huge feather that mesmerizes me when it spins.

There are some great balancers that are popular for your yard. We have a couple of the really large owls as well as a giant patriotic eagle. There are also some solar balancers with chasing lights that will look great after dark.

We have a lot of wonderful solar items that should arrive soon, ranging from lanterns to flame like torches. The torches we had that were so popular last year will be joined by another style with a blown glass top. In addition, we will have some lighted fabric stars in red, white and blue (these plug in). One really unique program is outdoor pillows where you buy the form and the cover separately. This makes changing your pillows to fit your mood or the season much more cost effective and easy to store! We have some pillows that match our flags and door mats! In the flag line, we have several new flag stands including colors, some with a solar light and wall hangers.

If you like the Art Poles we have had for several years, we really loaded up on a lot of styles for 2021. We also have "The World's Coolest Rain Gauge" back in stock. This has a tube that rises when it rains to make it easy to read. We have a good supply of "my favorite" watering can back in stock as well. These sold out fast last year.

Because our military chimes have been popular with the different branches, we've had requests for Coast Guard. We added Military Suncatchers since they featured the Coast Guard as well as the other branches.

New to our building is a group of artificial succulents. These make great arrangements in some of our cute containers so you can use them inside with no light or care.

Heavy Duty forged Shepherds hook are sometimes hard to find. We restocked our Single, Double and Quadruple hanging hooks this year. The price is higher, but these are sturdy 5/8" solid metal with a Stability Blade and 12" stakes in the ground. They are well made!

Just a note about our potting soils. We absolutely LOVE our Ultimate Mix Fertilome potting soil. We love it so much we don't carry any other brand. If you haven't tried it, once you do, you will be hooked. It stays loose and fresh all season long. My pet peeve is cheap soil that turns into concrete once it is in the pot. I am also not fond of the "very popular" brand you find at all the big box stores - it feels slimy compared to our Fertilome. You get what you pay for with potting soils. We also carry an Organic Garden Soil amendment and Cotton Burr Compost that have been very popular. We will mix those two with potting soil to help fill raised beds. I also have some blocks of Coir available in 2021. This is a substance similar to peat moss (it comes from coconuts), but has a longer life, as well as great water holding capacity. One other product I couldn't live without is Turf & Ornamental Weed & Grass Stopper, (Dimension) which takes the place of Preen. I use it to help keep my weeding chores down to a minimum in my flower beds! One of the great advantages over Preen is that sunlight does not break it down, so you can spread it on your flower beds at any time and not worry about mulching or watering right away.

SUPER CLEARANCE

We have a whole display of Very Cool Stuff solar lights. These are excellent lights, but we have had them in a poorly displayed location for too many years. There are globe lights with shepherd hooks, and lights to hang in your baskets. They are well made with replaceable batteries. They will be priced to walk out the door.

As usual we have a lot of clearance items just outside the building door.

2021 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Calamintha nepeta subsp. nepeta

Like a cloud of confetti, tiny white flowers (sometimes touched with pale blue) appear from early summer to fall. Undemanding and dependable, calamint provides the perfect foil for other summer bloomers and foliage. This full-sun perennial has a low mounding or bushy habit, ideal for the

front of the border, rock gardens, and more.

While durable and pest-free, calamint also checks two important boxes for gardeners: bees and other pollinators work the flowers throughout the summer and the aromatic foliage is deer-resistant.

Up to 18 inches tall and wide. Best with good drainage - tolerates some drought once established.

ANNUALS TO TRY IN 2021

Petunias, Petunias! There are so many beautiful varieties, it is really hard to select what to grow. Last year we were very impressed with the Petchoa Supercal 'Caramel Yellow', and 'Cinnamon', so we have several other colors in that same series, 'Bordeaux', 'Sunray Pink' and 'Royal Red'. Our all-time favorite has to be 'Vista Bubblegum'. There are a few new ones this year to look for: 'Vista Snowdrift' is a great white, 'Vista Mini Pink Star' is Proven Winners annual of the year, 'Bee's Knees' is a yellow with good holding color, 'Hippy Chick' has a unique white edge to the hot pink flower, and 'Itsy Magenta' is a great performer covered in tiny blossoms. There are some new colors in the Wave Petunia family, Easy Wave Rose Fusion, is a pink veined bloom, and Shock Wave Purple Tie Dye, which has unique blooms in purple and white There are many, many more. I wish we had more space to grow more, but that isn't possible so don't delay in getting your favorite.

Coleus is another variety I wish I could grow more of. We have upped our quantities, so hopefully we won't run out as soon this year. 'Inferno' continues to be one of our favorites, but there is so much variety, I'm sure you will find your own favorite!

We have a new **Sweet Potato vine 'Sweet Caroline Medusa Green'** which will only be available in Hanging
Baskets, that somewhat mimics the look of a fern basket –
but it will thrive in sun and heat! Check it out! **Rudbeckia Indian Summer** has been a favorite of ours
for years, some new improvements in that family are:
'Amarillo Gold', is a 2020 All-America Selection similar
to Prairie Sun, but more compact and earlier blooming,
and 'Rising Sun Chestnut Gold', has large blooms with a

burnt orange center. We were able to get the **Popcorn Plant** back again this year. It is a real



Continued:

Annuals Continued:

showstopper with leaves that really do smell like popcorn. **Dark Star Colocasia**, is another plant we are happy to have again. It is one of my favorite Elephant Ear plants with glossy dark leaves and purple stems. Of course, we have the **Giant Thailand** as well as **Mojito**.

One of my favorite plants (don't you hate it when I call them all my favorites?) are the **Big Begonias**, we switched back to them from the Viking last year, partly because they added a new color...white! So, we have **Red, Rose and White Big Begonias.** They are very easy to grow, tolerate most light conditions, are forgiving on water, and loaded with blooms – it doesn't get much better.

We have several **Mandevilla** varieties. Our newest are: 'Sun Parasol Apricot', which mounds and doesn't vine like the Large Pink and Red, and the bedding plant varieties which vine a little, but are good for flower beds and pots: 'Garden White' and 'Garden Crimson'. All great plants for sun and heat!

'Cracker Joe' continues to be a very popular large Marigold. Everyone who buys it comes back for it the next year! Other new Marigold varieties this year are 'Big Duck Gold', a large flower on compact plants, 'Fireball', with multicolor blooms on the same plant, and 'Flamenco', with yellow blooms tipped with red.

It has been 20 years since we last grew **Balsam**, which is in the Impatiens family. It grows 10' tall with double blooms that leave a fun seed pod. It "explodes" when you touch it! We grew a few **Bachelor Buttons** this year. They have a lot of family memories for me. My Mom always laughed that she bought seed the first year she moved to Newburgh from Parke County, Indiana, and my Dad told her they grew wild in the wheat fields around here! Alas – that is no longer the case. My Grandmother always used them with red roses and wild daisies for her Memorial Day bouquets. It is why I try to duplicate that bouquet for my Great Uncle Chester Schulz!

Cosmos 'Cupcakes and Saucers' is a new variety with a very unique bloom, kind of like a cup and saucer. We saw these at a field trial & thought they were really cool. Cosmos make great cut flowers.

Plectranthus 'Lion Blue' is a plant we have not grown for years! It is an upright plant in the Swedish Ivy family that gets covered in blue spikes late summer. The dark foliage is fuzzy. In the building, we have several varieties of **Air Plants.** These survive with just misting and an occasional soak in water...no soil!

Brugmansia 'Variegata' Peach is Angel's Trumpet. A tropical plant that bears huge teardrop trumpet blooms in the summer. This must come inside to survive the winter.

Citrus rack, back by popular demand, we will be getting a rack of citrus and other tropical edible plants, due about mid-April. Check out my lemon, orange and olive trees in front of #1 greenhouse. They are from the rack we got 2 years ago.

Edible Ginger, I don't know whether to put this with the food items or annuals, but we have Zingiber officinale, the edible ginger root plants. They can be overwintered in pots and harvested after 4 months! We will also have a few ornamental Variegated Ginger plants for those who like to grow tropicals.

We have a great selection of **Mangave** plants that are a cross between Agave and Manfreda. These succulent type plants love full sun and boast spectacular foliage. They must overwinter inside in our area.

We also have some divisions from my wonderful **Clivia** plant available this year. It is a great easy to grow houseplant with brilliant orange blooms in the early spring.

We have hanging baskets of **Jasmine 'Sambac'** again this year.

The annuals are all starting to grow and fill the greenhouses with color. Come check them out!

Onion Slips should arrive the first of April. We'll carry Vidalia, Super Star, and Candy varieties
Sweet Potato Slips should arrive the first week of May



NEW ROSE SELECTIONS FOR 2021

varieties for 2021

We had a mix-up on roses this year, and got them in very late, so they will be delayed from what you expect to see. We were just happy to get most of what we had ordered! We have all types of roses every year, these are the new

'Playful Happy Trails', 'Sunset Happy Trails' are Ground Cover Roses. Theses are low trailing plants with small single and semi-double blooms, red with a yellow center and salmon pink, respectively. 'Gourmet Popcorn' is a favorite of ours that we haven't had for quite a while. It is a smaller shrub with clusters of small white flowers that look like popcorn. 'Belinda's Blush', a shrub bearing cream blooms with a light pink blush. Climber 'Golden Opportunity', has gold blooms that are 3-4 inches in diameter, the plant is large for a climber. 'Pink Snowflakes', is a low spreading shrub with clusters of small pink blossoms. 'Silver Lining', a lavender floribunda, and 'Painted Porcelain', a Hybrid Tea bearing white-splashed pink blooms with a cream reverse. We also carry a few **Knock Out** roses (including a **White** Knock Out this year) and a newer Shrub rose 'Top Gun' which is resistant to the Rose Rosette disease.

Hasting Plants has been dedicated to bringing you exceptional garden plants since 1982. We hope you feel we live up to our motto:

"We're well worth the drive"

PERENNIALS OF NOTE IN 2020

You already know I love Peonies! Every year I try to get some

new varieties so I can increase my collection as well. Some to look for always include 'Red Charm' a dark red Bombe type (it sells out as soon as my plants bloom), and 'Kansas' a great watermelon red (again a favorite in my flower beds). 'Sorbet' and 'Raspberry Sundae' sport glorious pink and white coloring. New this year is 'Joker' which is a pink that fades to white with a picotee edge, and 'Red Sarah Bernhardt' joins the regular pink 'Sarah Bernhardt'. In the ITOH (tree and peony crosses) we have 'All That Jazz' and 'Hilary' joining the standard vellow 'Bartzella' Our Tree Peonies are some of the largest starts we have ever had - with their actual variety names.

We have a great group of Bearded Iris, 'Kathy Chilton', yellow and burgundy, 'Monmarte' unique

mauve, and 'Zesting Lemons', yellow and white, as well as our popular 'Dangerous Mood', two tone blue.

Echinacea 'Artisan Red Ombre', is a seed grown variety with Red flowers that soften in color with age. We have several **Echinacea** varieties ranging from the native straight species to great new color collections.

Chick Charms, are collectible Hen & Chick varieties. We have a great bright yellow variety called 'Gold Nugget' that is already selling fast!

I always love the blue umbel flowers of **Agapanthus**, and it is especially great when I can find varieties that are hardy to our area! 'Galaxy Blue', (which reblooms) and 'Little Galaxy', are large and small hardy varieties.

Allium is a great, easy to grow plant with globe shaped blooms in the summer. We have several varieties, including 'Lavender Bubbles', which was one of my favorite plants in a display bed 2 years ago. I tried to get the plants last year, but failed, so I'm excited to have it now. 'Serendipity', is a Proven Winners selection with blue foliage.

We have lots of **Buddleia or Butterfly Bushes** in all sizes. **'Grand Cascade'**, and **'Lilac Cascade'**, are tall varieties with lovely large "drooping" blooms.

Heliopsis 'Burning Hearts'/ False Sunflower, was another one of my "favorite" flowers at field trials 2 years ago. It has been hard to come by, so I was happy to get it this year as well as a new Heliopsis 'Bleeding Hearts'. Heliopsis in general is a workhorse in the garden. It is very unassuming, but just blooms for an extended period summer through fall. 'Burning Hearts' has bright yellow flowers with red centers. 'Bleeding Hearts' has orange flowers with red centers. This is the only Heliopsis without yellow blooms. The dark foliage compliments both nicely. Geranium 'Rozanne' has been the standard for a long blooming, heat tolerant geranium. It has violet blue flowers, and is joined this year by 'Kelly Anne', with bright pink blooms with white centers. Both flower nicely all summer long, and are deer and rabbit resistant to boot!

Lychnis 'Orange Gnome', is always a showstopper with bronze foliage and bright orange-scarlet flowers.

We have a large selection of **BeeBalm/Monarda**, which are great pollinator plants and resistant to deer! New this year **is 'Blue Moon'**, is a dwarf lavender-blue bee balm, unusual height for this color.

Oregano Drops of Jupiter, is an ornamental variety with chartreuse yellow leaves and mauve

pink flowers. **Oregano 'Kirigami'**, boasts showy purple green bracts that look great in hanging baskets or containers. The "blooms" are actually bracts that last for a long time.

Phlox Opalescence and Ultraviolet, are new very disease resistant varieties. Phlox Rose Bouquet is one we bragged about last year due to the length of its bloom period. Ours have been flowering until October!

Salvia is a great pollinator plant for

Perenials Continued:

bees, butterflies and hummingbirds with the added benefit of being deer and rabbit resistant. 'Fashionista Evening Attire', 'Moulin Rouge', 'Vanity Flair' all boast big bold blooms in a variety of colors. 'Back to the Fuchsia' and 'Violet Riot' are a salvia cross that has good basal branching and form full well-rounded plants.

Asarum canadense/American Ginger is a great groundcover for shady areas. Grown for its glossy foliage. Native **Trumpet Vine** is popular for hummingbirds. Our variety bears fiery red blooms.

Another Native vine this year is **Bignonia** 'Tangerine

Beauty' or Cross Vine. It bears orange trumpet flowers in clusters in the spring and is attractive to hummingbirds. We have some wonderful Honeysuckle plants which are also great for hummingbirds. 'Magnifica' with red blooms, 'Major Wheeler' with red-orange blooms is the most prolific bloomer, and 'Gold Flame' has pink and yellow blooms. All of these are very hardy vining plants. 'Crimson Glory' Grape Vine is an ornamental variety of grape grown for extravagant fall flaming red leaves. Carolina Jasmine grows into a great evergreen vine that blooms with fragrant tubular yellow flowers in the

springtime. I have a specimen at the end of Greenhouse #1. Centaurea montana 'Blue' is the perennial Bachelor Button. A variety we have not grown for quite a while. Sweet Woodruff makes a nice groundcover in partly shaded moist areas. It has tiny white fragrant flowers in the springtime.

Helianthus 'Autumn Gold'/Willowleaf Sunflower, is a dwarf plant that gets covered with yellow daisy blooms until frost. We also have another Helianthus 'Lemon Queen'. I like Helianthus for the late bloom in the garden!

Ruellia or **Wild Petunia** is a great native with petunia-like lavender-blue blooms all summer long. This is in the same family as the annual Mexican Petunia.

One of our all-time favorite **Lilies** is 'Casa Blanca', a pure white fragrant variety, 'Conca d' Or', is a huge glorious two tone yellow bloom. We also have a large pot of **Bloom Extension Lillies**, which has a couple of similar yellow varieties that will bloom at differing times making the pot last much longer than one variety would. It will be a great Mothers Day gift pot! These are only a few of the beautiful selections we have for you this year.



Rudbeckia 'Glitters Like Gold' is a hybrid Black Eyed Susan with clean disease resistant foliage. Three-inch flowers bloom summer through fall. Very easy! Autumn Sun is a tall, 6-7 ft. back of the border plant with bright yellow blooms. Solidago 'Little Lemon'/ Goldenrod, gets a bad rap since it blooms the same time as ragweed. This is not what makes you sneeze! It is a great fall blooming yellow accent for your garden. This dwarf 10" tall variety blooms exceptionally long.

Chrysogonum 'Allen Bush' is a great groundcover for shade. The common name is green and gold for the foliage and blooms. It is a native plant that blooms in the spring. I've met Allen Bush, the horticulturist this is named for!

We have several varieties of Baptisia/ False Blue Indigo,

new to us this year is 'Dark Chocolate', with nearly black charcoal-purple flowers with spikes up to 27" long Gaillardia 'Spintop Red Starburst' has some of the coolest foliage I've seen on a Gaillardia. I keep thinking it is a Poppy every time I pass by.

Anemone 'Wild Swan' blooms from late spring through frost! It has huge white flowers with lilac-blue bands on the backside

If I was on stage, they would have the shepherds hook dragging me off about now! There are a lot more goodies to discover, but you'll have to do it on your own!

VEGETABLES AND GARDEN PLANTS

I am happy to have some small fruits again. We have 'Black Satin' Thornless Blackberry, Blueberry 'Northsky', which is a compact variety great for small gardens or containers, and 'Sweetheart' which bears two crops of berries in one year! 'Meeker' Red Raspberry, bears dark red fruit in June 'Victoria' Rhubarb', 'Jersey Knight' Asparagus and for the first time, we will have dormant Strawberry starts (in our refrigerator), both 'Allstar' and 'Honeoye'

Pepper Habanero White joins the many types of Habanero peppers we grow. And we added **Tomato First Lady**, which is an improvement on Early Girl.

If you are planning only one visit to Hasting Plants this year due to distance, may we suggest you plan your visit between April 15 and May 15 for the best display and selection.

2021 SEMINARS

I'm sorry, but we will not have any seminars in 2021.

COUPON ETIQUETTE

We provide coupons to reward you, our valued customers, for shopping with us, and I know you enjoy getting them. Most of you know and appreciate that. Unfortunately, we can't give you the coupon discount if you don't have the coupon.... please understand it from our side, if we did it for one, we would have to do it for all. Once that started, everyone would get a discount all the time. I simply can't afford that. We are sorry if you forgot/ lost or destroyed your coupons, we can't honor them if you don't have them...

OUR EMPLOYEE FAMILY

I think my employees are the best! I can honestly say I don't think I could do this without any one of them. They each add their own special skills that make this whole operation work! Be sure to thank them, and let them know you appreciate all they do to get Hasting Plants up and running!!!

Brenda Upshaw, Assistant Manager, 14 years, has a great knowledge of flowers. She does it all...transplant, move plants, water, clean, and work the register. She also gets a lot of the merchandise checked in and priced in the building. No one works harder! She cleans and straightens all the things I just step over. She plants up most of the perennials.

Lydia Lurker, 19 years, is one of my main transplanters. She can do the tiny things no one else wants to tackle. She is also my vegetable expert! We are always inspired by her age and work ethic! She just amazes all of us.... we'll take a break and she keeps on working! Since she only works during planting season, you might not get to see her. She is 96 and going strong! **Jo Ann Holbrook**, 19 years, is a great transplanter. She keeps us going on all those pepper and tomato varieties. She also loves flowering plants and is great at helping you find those unique varieties. With a great flower and vegetable garden at home, she gives good advice for both! She comes into each year with an unmatched excitement for our work.

Barb Enderson, 10 years, works the register during selling season. I am amazed at how she can fit all the merchandise I keep ordering into the sales building and make it look wonderful! The building is her "baby".

Joe Anderson, 8 years, does any job we need. He's great at planting, putting up shade cloth and benches, assembling garden art and gliders...you name it! It's tough being the only male employee with all of us women! He enjoys working the wagon during selling season.

Donna Anderson, 6 years, is a great transplanter, even tackling the tiny plants. She works at one speed.... fast! Until Covid is a thing of the past, you won't see her much during selling season. She is Joe's wife.

Shy Zwiefka, 8 years, will be back on a limited basis to help us pot up our "specials".

Loren Simpson, 5 years, will be back on a limited basis to help us pot up our "specials".

Dona Bergman,1 year, has told me for years when she retired, she wanted to work here, so here she is! I'm not sure she realized just how much work it is! She has done a great job of potting and getting plants carried out and displayed. She will be working the wagon and assisting customers this spring.

Lori Schutz, 1 year, is another newbie. She has been great with potting and moving those plants out too. She will be working the wagon, assisting customers and running the register at times.

Michael Clark worked in the early spring helping pot plants, lug soil around and generally be ordered around by a LOT of old ladies. He was between jobs due to COVID, and we took advantage of him. He is now gainfully employed in Texas.

All of my employees love plants, and you can tell it in the work they do. I couldn't ask for a better crew. I don't have any immediate needs, but I finally developed a **job application** for Hasting Plants. If you think you'd like to work with us, fill one out and tell us to keep it on file for future years.

And my family update:

Diane Haag, 28, Married to Scott Haag and lives near Austin Texas. She is a nurse in a pediatric clinic. The BIG NEWS is, she and Scott are going to make me a GRANDMA!!!!! They even planned the event so it didn't fall during greenhouse season!!!!! She plans to make it home for one weekend at the greenhouse this year.

Daniel Hasting, 33, just moved to Chattanooga since his job for IU allows him to work remotely. He enjoys rock climbing in his spare time. (Thus, the move to Chattanooga) He maintains my web page.

Husband **Mike** continues to run maintenance for me. He never wants me to mention him, but I really couldn't do this without him. He handles the propane, arranges the potting soils, prepares and manages the playground, places and changes my road signs, and many, many more behind the scene activities. He really does make this possible!

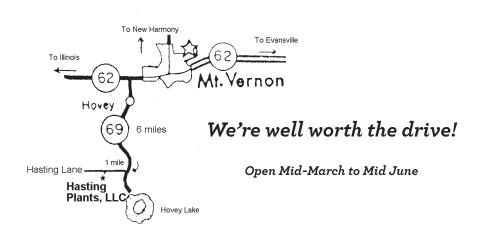
Pizazz (the cat) is usually around. He is a bit unpredictable and can be friendly as can be, then suddenly nip at you! Pet with caution

Our puppy, **Poppy**, is still young (she turned 4 on March 22). Poppy barks and is a bit timid with strangers, we hope she'll outgrow that with patience. During the real busy times she will probably be in my office. Late in the season, she can hopefully come out and socialize a bit.

Nancy thinks every year she'll be more organized & prepared for spring to roll around.... but instead she is always playing catch-up. It's a fun frenzied time that I love each year.

You - my customers - are the real heart & soul of this business. Without you and your support, your comments and the love you express for all our efforts, we wouldn't be here to have all this fun each year. I appreciate each and every one of you.





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