

Spring 2024

We're well worth the drive!

OUR 42ND YEAR OF GROWING FOR YOU! 1982-2024

Hours:

Mon- Sat 9 to 5 Closed Sunday

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

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



NOTES FROM NANCY

Wow! What a busy season last year! I am trying to grow some crops later this year so we aren't "picked over" quite as early. We do like to sell out of things.....just not quite that soon!

This was another busy off season for me...but better than the last two when I totally rebuilt greenhouses #1 & #2. This year included some minor upgrades on greenhouses #5 & 6.

We had some fun in July, when I normally travel (every other year) to Michigan for plant trials. I ended up taking a car load of employees along for the ride. We enjoyed all the beautiful plants, a peek at Lake Michigan beaches and some of the small towns in the area. It was a working trip and a vacation rolled into one. My biggest problem was making them realize we can't grow ALL of the plants we saw! We kicked off 2024 with a trip to the Merchandise Mart in Atlanta to find some new items for the store. I think you'll find LOTS of new goodies this year both in plants and garden art!!!!

PLEASE NOTE!!!! CARD TRANSACTION FEES!

For the last few years we implemented a new card processing system to help our small business with the everincreasing 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 continue to 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 a check, so plan accordingly.

Examples: On a \$50 sale, you would be charged \$51.75. \$100 sale would be \$103.50. We don't get any of that extra money...it goes straight to the credit card companies.

FACEBOOK MESSAGES

Facebook is a wonderful way to communicate, but I struggle every spring when I get messages by Facebook. During the day, I have absolutely 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! 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.

PHONE CHANGES

After my landline phone bill went from \$240 a month to over \$3000 the next, I had to make some serious changes. A regular cell phone service won't work where several of us are able to answer the phone like usual. We found a neat product that lets us convert our cell phone to a landline system so the answering machine & phones work like normal. The one thing I can't control is call waiting. If you call and no one answers it is because we are on the phone. Try back again. We do not have texting capabilities with our new system. Please don't text the greenhouse.

SOLAR ECLIPSE, APRIL 8, 2024

We would love to have you join us for the eclipse on April 8. We will be open from 9 to 5 as usual, but will temporarily close the store from 1:45 to 2:15 so my staff can enjoy the eclipse along with everyone else. We have a great open area for viewing. We are planning an all day sale with 20% off all solar, glow in the dark, sun, star and moon merchandise. There will be a **selected** group of plants on sale that feature "Sun", "Eclipse", or "Moon" in their name.

LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE

IT'S BACK!!!!! Be sure to join us for our 14th annual "Late Night at the Greenhouse" on the third Friday night in May. "Late Night" will be on **May 17**, **from 8 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.** As always, we will string lights in the greenhouses and outside to make a "festive" atmosphere. Plants will be discounted. We will have lots of refreshments for you to enjoy, and we will have live music. Bring a lawn chair, a flashlight, and come sit for a spell to enjoy the evening! Door Prizes will be drawn throughout the evening with a Grand Prize Drawing at 10:30. You must be present to win for all drawings.

CHANGE IN HANGING BASKET PRICING – PLEASE NOTE!

After 35 or more years of running a Hanging Basket special price, we are discontinuing the special this year. It took a lot of soul searching. I hate to stop, but it was started to help move out baskets that weren't selling, and now we have the opposite problem. We are sorry for any inconvenience it may cause you, but we hope you will understand. If you are one of our customers that buys 10 or more baskets at one time, check with us.

NEW IN THE BUILDING

I think you will really enjoy shopping the building this year! Tammy has it looking super nice! After attending an extra buying market, we really have it loaded with merchandise. Two of our favorite long-time suppliers are going out of business this year, so what we have of their merchandise will be the last. One is Burley Clay, a pottery based in Ohio where we get pots and birdbaths. The other is Studio M who makes the wonderful Art Poles we actually have featured this season in the building. If you've been on the fence about buying either of those products, do it soon.

We are excited to offer special Hasting Plants T-shirts in collaboration with 1818 Farms from Alabama. They have a unique floral image of the states that they sell on note cards, tea towels and stickers. We will have Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois merchandise, but the T-shirts are strictly Indiana showing our location and logo! We will also offer some of their handmade lotions and lip balm products.

We have so much new merchandise, I am just going to list it and not tell how "cool" it is to save space in this newsletter. I would use up all my newsletter otherwise. Look for Modgy Luminaries, Vases and Dog Bowls, new Wallaroo Hats including winter felt styles, baseball caps with style, our new Zest Pots, Collapsible buckets, soil scoops and collapsible rakes, very cool ceramic mugs with lids in gift boxes, lots of mushrooms, bee items, frogs, head planters, cute animals, journals, garden trugs, new pottery, new fairy merchandise, unique solar lights, door mats, umbrellas, tool bags with matching aprons, stone cairns, and much, much more!!!!! We didn't go a little crazy, we went a lot crazy!

2024 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Phlox paniculata 'Jeana' Garden Phlox

This exceptional phlox has an impressive flower show and sturdy habit. It blooms from midsummer to early fall and attracts pollinators. The fragrant lavender-pink flowers are significantly smaller than typical garden phlox, but the show is eye-popping. In a Mt. Cuba study, the nectar rich flowers of Jeana attracted more butterflies than any other garden phlox. Hummingbirds are fans too. Topped with flowers, 'Jeana' can reach 4 to 5 ft. tall, and is resistant to powdery mildew. 'Jeana' was discovered growing along the Harpeth River near Nashville TN, and is named for its discoverer, Jeana Prewitt. Note: We may have limited supplies of this plant this year.

SUPER CLEARANCE

We have several items priced to sell again this year. Selected flags, door décor, fairy items, and patriotic merchandise have been added to the list. We will have some wind spinners and stakes in a special reduced section. Our super clearance is also on some moving star solar lanterns and small 3-way solar lights.

ANNUALS TO TRY IN 2024

Where to start? I'll try to organize it by greenhouse to assist you in finding the new items!

In Greenhouse #1: Look for a new bush-type Mandevilla 'Peach Sunrise'. It makes great hanging baskets and is a non-vining type. There are a couple of new Lantana varieties that make great hanging baskets - they don't trail, but mound nicely. Shamrock Butterscotch, Red and Rose Gold, as well as Passion Fruit varieties can be found in hanging baskets (Greenhouse #2) as well as pots in #1. Hollywood Hibiscus are tropical with outstanding bud count and performance. We have several colors. We have replaced our Gerbera with Garvinea which is more weather hardy, pest, and disease tolerant. There is a new color of Crossandra - 'Watermelon', and two new large flowered Cupheas, Sweet Talk Red and Lavender **Splash**. Both those plants love sun and heat! In Greenhouse#2: Look for Orange Flowering Clivia I divided last year. These hard to come by houseplants are easy care and long-lived. We have a whole collection of small houseplants I think you will find fun. There are lots of **Peperomia**, **Epipremnum** (think Philodendron or Pothos look), and our favorites, String of Hearts, String of Turtles, Tradescantia Nanouk and Pistachio White, a Gerkin Pickle Plant, and Homalocladium Ribbons and Curls. We have some small pots of Emerald Queen Ferns that can take sun and are easy to grow. We also switched to **Beacon Impatiens** in our packs, which are resistant to Downy Mildew. I really love N.G. Impatiens 'Rollercoaster Magenta' for it's very ruffly blooms. In Greenhouse #3: We are growing Gaura as an annual, it is such a great heat-loving, bloom-all-summer kind of plant, but we haven't had luck with the pink varieties surviving the winters, so our suggestion is to treat it like an annual! We have 2 varieties, 'Passionate Rainbow' even has variegated foliage! There is a fun new tall green plant to use like a spike. Eupatorium 'Elegant Feathers' is fluffy-kind of a tall thin "Cousin It". Our ever-blooming Sunflowers that perform so well all summer are 'Brown Eyed Girl', 'Sol Seeker Yellow', and 'Sunfinity'.

Annuals Continued:

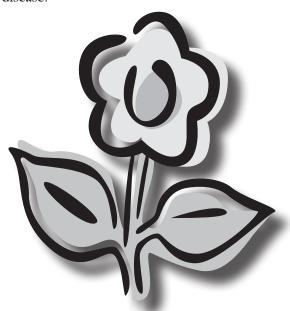
We have a lot of pretty Verbena, but one that caught my eye last summer was 'Empress Flair Burgundy'! A couple of other sharp Verbena are 'Mango Orange' and 'Vampire Red. It's been a while since we had Plectranthus 'Mona Lavender' which is in the Swedish Ivy family, has great dark fuzzy foliage that bursts into bloom late in the summer, you would swear it was a Salvia. It is really cool! There should be some more unique Elephant Ear plants joining our 'Thailand Giant', like 'Redemption',' Polar Green', 'Royal Hawaii' and 'Royal Waikiki'. Another plant that blew me away last summer in the trial gardens was Heliotrope 'August Lavender'. The pale lavender color is so different than the traditional dark purple, I hardly recognized what it was. Heliotrope is a very fragrant flower! My employees made me revisit a Pennisetum we grew 20 years ago when they saw it in Chicago. 'Jade Princess' is a chartreuse "corn-like" plant with a feathery bloom, perfect for height in a larger pot. (I used to grow it from seed and my cats would eat it as soon as it sprouted!) We also have some wonderful Tropical Milkweed plants in 'Blood Red' and 'Yellow'. There are some **Popcorn Plants** to find as well, and I haven't even mentioned Coleus!!!!! There is a cool trailing Coleus 'Great Falls Rose Gold' (The tag says "Haversu"), and tons of pretty Sun Coleus. There are two new Angelonia colors, 'Archangel Ruby Sangria' and 'Angel Dance Fuchsia Bicolor'. Every time I walk through the greenhouse I find more plants to mention!!!! This greenhouse is loaded to the gills!

In Greenhouse #4: We have those gorgeous petunias you will have trouble choosing between. Some new varieties this year are: 'Banana Cherry' - yellow with Fuchsia edges, 'Banana Candy' - yellow with a red eye, 'Blanket Silver Surprise' - which are small flowers that bloom in different shades, 'Double Sugar Plum' - really pretty, some great reds. 'Cascadia Chili Red', 'Crazytunia Gingersnap' and 'Supercal Red Maple', and an unusual one with green and purple flowers - 'Amazonia Plum Cockatoo'. We do have the Proven Winners 'Bubblegum', but encourage you to try 'Color Rush Pink' for exactly the same flower power. Come find your favorite petunia!

In Greenhouse #5: Look for a Benary Giant Zinnia Coral – these were amazing in the Michigan gardens. Outside near the herb bench, don't miss Salvia 'Santa Barbara' (Mexican Sage). This is glorious in the late summer when most everything is getting bedraggled. I'm sure there are a lot of treasures I have failed to mention. Look around!!!!!!!

NEW ROSE SELECTIONS FOR 2023

As usual, we have a great rose selection! We carry the Hybrid Tea and Grandiflora (Cutting flowers), Floribunda (clusters of blooms with a more rounded habit), Climbers and Shrub roses which are sometimes hard to find. New varieties this year include: 'Cosmic Clouds' a magenta purple Shrub, 'Make Me Blush' a Hybrid Tea soft yellow and pink blush, 'Miss Manners' a pink Grandiflora, 'Pink Freedom' a pink Shrub, and 'Quest for Zest' a lovely yellow Grandiflora. We also carry a few Knock Out roses 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 2023

As usual, we have a great selection of **Peonies** this year. We have a beautiful single dark red 'Buckeye Belle' by request, both 'Coral Charm' and 'Coral Sunset', and Four ITOH varieties. Be sure to look at all the pretty new varieties. New or different perennials include a new Agastache 'Guava Lava' with coral orange flowers. We have Bergenia (which reminds me of Wax Begonias) 'Ripple Effect' and 'Vintage Rose' that do well in shady areas (ask us about their common name - "Pigsqueak"). There are a couple of great silver foliage plants this year, Artemesia 'Silver Lining' which does not spread by underground runners like older varieties we avoided, and Centaurea 'Silver Swirl'. Also for silver, I should probably mention a tiny foliaged Lamb's Ear my employees fell in love with, Stachys 'Little Lamb'. We have the Bush Clematis 'Stand By Me' with blue bell shaped flowers. Euphorbia 'Ascot Rainbow' will add color to a sunny border with it's foliage. There is a Daylily we all liked at the trials 'Blood Sweat and Tears' with 6" Raspberry blooms. You can't go wrong with Heuchera/ Coralbells and we saw some striking colors that just glowed in the landscape on our tours - 'Dolce Cherry Truffles' and 'Primo Peachberry Ice'. Also check out Heuchera 'Smoke and Mirrors' and Heucherella 'Eye Spy. There are so many wonderful Hostas, but check out 'Echo the Sun' which has yellow ruffled foliage, and 'Miss America' with 5 foot bloom scapes! Kniphofia (Red Hot Poker) 'Solar Flare' was a yellow blooming standout in the Michigan trials. We were impressed with a Shasta Daisy 'Seventh Heaven' that has lemon vellow buds and creamy white full flowers. We have a new Garden Phlox in the Luminary series, 'Sunset Coral'. These disease resistant varieties give some nice bold color to the landscape. Indian Pinks, or Spigella are great native flowering plants, we have 'Ragin Cajun' and 'Little Redhead' again. A little later in the season, we are getting some pots of grasses in to sell. We normally struggle with grasses since they don't start taking off until it gets hot, so hopefully these will be a good start. We will have several varieties from short Blue Fescue to tall Miscanthus. There is a new Lavender 'Sensational', which is right up there with 'Phenomenal'. It is a little more compact with shorter stems and larger flowers. There are a couple of new doubleflowered pom-pom Asters for intense late summer bloom, 'Showmakers Blue Bayou' and 'Magenta'. Cimicifuga 'Pink Spike' is a part sun, edge of the woods plant with bronze foliage and soft pink fragrant flowers. Geranium 'St. Ola' is an improved 'Biokovo' which has been one of my favorite easy growing varieties. It makes a great groundcover. We have a lot of really nice perennial Salvia including a couple of red greggi types that usually are great hummingbird attractors. Look for 'Artic Blaze' and 'Cherry Red'. A new Salvia that is an All-America Selections winner is 'Blue By You' which can repeat bloom 5 times throughout the spring and summer. In the great coincidence category - I was sent a photo last summer by a landscaper of a plant I haven't grown for 20 or more years....haven't even seen it available from my suppliers. I identified it as Thalictrum and he requested

I try to get it in. Lo and behold, there are 2 of my suppliers offering it this year! Look for 'My Little Favorite' and 2 other species. These have foliage like Columbine, and fluffy pink flowers at the top. I have avoided Tradescantia even though it is a plant I remember from my childhood, because even though it is beautiful when it blooms, it ends up looking ratty afterwards. Tradescantia (Spiderwort) 'Brainstorm' blooms all summer long! Problem solved! Another perennial in the "long time ago" category is Verbascum which is related to the weed Mullein. This bears a soft yellow bloom with red eyes, called 'Dark Eyes'. We have Solidago (Goldenrod) 'Fireworks' which is a great yellow blooming native for late summer color.

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.

We saw some beautiful white Hydrangeas last summer and have several to offer this spring. 'Invincibelle Wee White', Firelight Tidbit', 'Quick Fire Fab' and 'Quick Fire' are great hydrangeas in varying heights. We also have a couple of Lilacs: 'Bloomerang Purple' and 'Scentara Blue'. We have Wood Poppies, a nice spreading yellow flower for shaded gardens. Some small, but decent starts of Hakonechloa 'Aureola' – Japanese Fountain Grass, a good flowing, shade loving grass. New to us is Mukgenia 'Novi Flame', which is a low growing ground cover with great fall color. Veronia – the native Ironweed, tops off our list of new plants. I think you can tell, that trip to Michigan last summer got a lot of new varieties coming this year! We can't wait for you to come discover them for yourselves. We think you'll be pleased!



VEGETABLES AND GARDEN PLANTS

We have a new basket tomato called 'Heartbreaker Vallery Orange', like the Tumbler, but orange and very sweet. Also a cool unusual shaped elongated orange tomato

called **Sun Dipper** – great for vegetable platters and dipping in sauce.

We will have a **Quick Snack Cucumber** in pots - hopefully bearing by the time you visit.

Two new **Basil** plants called **Everleaf Towers**, one is **Evergreen**, the other **Thai**. They get quite tall and columnar and produce prolifically. We have a few hanging baskets with assorted herbs, one a "Grill Master" containing Sage, Rosemary and Oregano, the other a Mix of Sage, Oregano and Thyme.

We have a hardy **Kiwi 'Prolific'** that produces smooth skinned grape sized fruit in the fall.

Don't miss our hanging baskets of 'Pot a Peno' and 'Peppers From Heaven' as well as a small 'Catch Pillar' cherry tabletop tomato that we had last year.

We should have a new requested Cucumber 'Sweet Success' this spring in the individual pots.

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

2024 SPECIAL EVENTS



KIDS PLANT A COLOR BOWL - Do you have a 1st through 4th grader that enjoys plants? We'll have fun as they learn basic planting techniques and leave the class with a colorful bowl of plants that makes a great Mother's Day gift! Class limited to 8, so sign up early. **Saturday May 11**, **9:30 a.m. Fee: \$25.00**



LATE NIGHT AT THE GREENHOUSE - May 17, 8p.m. to 10:30 p.m. See the section earlier for details. (Please note, we will close from 5 until 8 p.m.)



ANN McDONALD on BUTTERFLIES - May 18 at 2:00 p.m. Ann retired from teaching in Posey County. She began raising butterflies with her students in 1985 and continues to this day. Her mission is to help everyone develop environments for butterflies, especially Monarchs. She will amaze you with her knowledge! No fee, please register for seating purposes.



MARK McDONALD - BARN ART BY MARK – May 18, approximately 2:00 p.m.
As an added bonus to Ann's talk, her husband, Mark, will bring his barn art quilt blocks to sell that afternoon! It's a little pop-up shop!

Register by calling the greenhouse at 812-838-2164.



COUPON ETIQUETTE

We provide dated 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, Plant Manager, 17 years, has a great knowledge of flowers. She does it all...transplant, move plants, water, clean, and work the register. No one works harder! She cleans and straightens all the things I just step over. She plants up most of the perennials and more!

Donna Anderson, 9 years, is a great transplanter, even tackling the tiny plants. She works at one speed.... fast! You might find her writing tickets at the wagon later in the season.

Dona Bergman, 4 years, does a great job of potting and getting plants carried out and displayed. She enjoys assisting customers.

Lori Schutz, 4 years, has been great with potting (she likes the tiny stuff) and moving those plants out. She will be working the wagon, assisting customers and running the register at times.

Tammy Loehr, Building Manager, 3 years. Tammy is putting her 30+ years of merchandise retailing talents to good use in the building. She keeps spurring Mike and me to make improvements, and even repainted the bathroom a more pleasing neutral!

Bob Sallee, 2 years, keeps us all in stitches. He started out sooooo quiet! He is great at all planting jobs and handles the wagon duties admirably!

Kathy Stevens, 2 years, has big shoes to fill in the vegetable greenhouse this year since JoAnn retired. She is an avid gardener and I'm sure you will love her just as much. She does great transplanting as well.

Rhonda Schenk, 2 years, handles all the transplanting jobs and runs the wagon as well. She is a steady hand, and has an even, calming disposition. You might see her at the register too!

Diane (Hasting) Haag, 31 years, moved back to Indiana! She will be working part time when her husband can watch the kids this spring. We'll be glad to have her back! She and Scott have a 2 year old, a 1 year old and #3 due in August!!!! She's pretty busy!

Barb Enderson, 13 years, supposedly retired 2 years ago, but like a bad penny, keeps showing up . No, really, we are always happy for her able assistance in the building!!!

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. My one requirement is that you be able to lift 50 pounds....this is very physical work!

And my family update:

Daniel Hasting, 36, works in computer programming for IU, which allows him to work remotely. He enjoys rock climbing and mountain biking in his spare time. We have a hard time keeping up with where he is at any given time. He can usually be found out West: Colorado, Wyoming, Utah.... wherever the climbing is good! 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!

Our puppy, **Poppy**, is seven, she barks and is a bit timid with strangers. We hope she'll outgrow that with time. During the real busy times she will probably be in my office. Later in the season, she can hopefully come out and socialize a bit. She might want to sniff you, but won't let you pet her....Please don't push yourself at her, and please teach your children to respect her space as they should with any strange dog.

Nancy really enjoys all aspects of the greenhouse season, the relatively quiet calm of potting plants, the moving and displaying plants and merchandise outside and in, seeing valued customers I've missed for 9 months, and watching the plants and garden art find new homes. It is a LOT of work each year...even in the "off" season, but it is always rewarding and fun.

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.



OUR 42ND YEAR OF GROWING FOR YOU! 1982-2024



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

