

Here are several not to be missed web sites and publications. If you don't have access to a computer now's the time to visit your local library and get connected. You'll find the books at our local bookstores, some nurseries and of course our libraries.

Kingston Master Gardener Debra Teachot-Teashon and Travis Saling (of Sumner) have teamed up to form "Two Rainy Side Gardeners." Visit their site at [www.rainyside.com](http://www.rainyside.com). Debra's specialty is landscape plants and her photographs are exquisite. I felt as if I could touch and smell the plants depicted on her site. Travis has been growing vegetables since the 1970s. His information and tips for growing vegetables in our Northwest weather are invaluable. Their site has been up and running since 1998. It's a user-friendly site with an encyclopedia-worth of horticulture help included. I'm glad to have finally discovered it; you will be too.

Seattle Tilth has their newest edition of "The Maritime Northwest Garden Guide" hot off the presses. Inside the cover you'll find month-by-month tips on growing plants, fruit and vegetables in our area. The information provided is strictly organic. Some of what you'll find is information on soils, fertilizers, compost, cover crops and a chart listing herbs and vegetables and how and when to plant them. The chart gives the life span of saved seed. Now you'll have an idea if those seeds you forgot to plant will grow. This booklet will be the best \$9.95 you'll ever spend. Visit the Seattle Tilth website at [www.seattletilth.org](http://www.seattletilth.org). Order their publication via the website or call 206-633-0451.

A few weeks ago I gave the wrong phone number for Plant Amnesty. Their correct number is 206-783-9813. Plant Amnesty has a terrific web site at [www.plantamnesty.org](http://www.plantamnesty.org). You'll find abundant information on trimming, pruning and renovating woody plants. The site also includes archives of articles prepared by Plant Amnesty. Membership application is offered on the site too. You can also email your pruning questions to this site.

Rodale's "Almanac and Pest-Control Primer" (\$16.95) provides a month-by-month guide and journal for planning, planting, and tending an organic garden. Each month you'll find a "to do" list giving planting and gardening tips for each gardening zone. (Our zone is USDA 8.) Just in time, the chapter on February offers how to start seeds, germination and transplanting advice, pruning instructions, and a list of what to do in your garden during the month. I added this book to my personal library.

I've seen an advance copy of Ann Lovejoy's new book "Ann Lovejoy's Organic Garden Design School" (Rodale \$35.00). What a book! It's one of the best and most complete books on designing and maintaining a landscaped garden I've ever seen. If you're renovating or creating your garden, this is the book for you. It's a great book for existing gardens too. The organic information is incredible and extremely detailed and complete.

I recently discovered this new book "A World of Flowers" photographed by Clay Perry and written by Maggie Perry (St. Martin's Press \$29.95). I absolutely covet this book. Photos are exquisite and words are equally savory. The horticultural details and tips are most helpful. Readers will devour this book, photo-by-photo and word-by-word and then yell for more. Nearly every plant depicted will grow happily in our northwest climate. What a book!

Last but not least while haunting the stacks in the 635.0496 section of the Poulsbo Library I found these timely and quite interesting books on deterring deer in our gardens. Check out "Deer Resistant Ornamental Plants for the Northern United States" by Pamela Gehn Stephens, "Outwitting Deer" by Bill Adler, Jr., and "Deer Proofing Your Yard and Garden" by Rhonda Massingham Hart. Each book will give you "food" for thought. The lists of deer proof plants and advice offered in all three books are worth a try.

Don't forget to purchase your tickets for the Northwest Flower and Garden Show. Be sure to view the exhibit of 70 priceless Royal Horticultural Society one-of-a-kind botanical art pieces on display in the Galleria of the Washington State Convention and Trade Center from January 12 through February 22 overlapping the Show's dates of February 7-11. You won't want to miss this year's Garden Show event. It's bigger and better than ever.

*You can email comments to Peg at [gardenmentor@yahoo.com](mailto:gardenmentor@yahoo.com) or in care of this newspaper.*