



Fingerling Potatoes September in Truckee



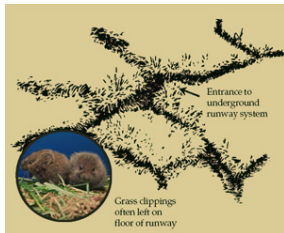
# Newsletter

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### Check-out the "brief" vole blog

The voles were



voles and their runways

exceptionally numerous and ravenous this winter as were bunnies.

Voles ate my trees and shrubs this winter. They left runways in my lawn and they dug-up some tulips. Rabbits ate my spruce, a lilac, lower branches from a few trees and they are still here.

For lawns: Rake them to let in air and light.



Smoke bomb any open holes then fill them with sandy "Garden Quality Premium Top Soil" really good dirt, not compost. Sprinkle a little Dr.Earth Lawn or Biosol over the damaged areas. Topdress the lawn with Kellogg's Topper (Buy 4 get 1 Free) Reseed in mid-May if there are

## Mountain Gardening Notes: Late April / May Day 2010

Dear Villager,

"I'm not gonna lie", I enjoyed last weekend's sunshine and warmth. And, while sunny weather is much better for nurserying, we all really need the snow, the rain, the water. That was a lot of snow though.

We have been staining benches, tables, repairing broken trees (see Saturday's Class), planting bulbs we missed last fall, and pulling weeds.

We have also been receiving truck-loads of pottery, art, seed potatoes, seeds, and hardy plants from several of our growers. I've actually been "tweeting".

We have had (and have more now) hardy vegetable starts as well as tomatoes for folks with greenhouses or sunny indoor spots.

Seeds of all kinds are here and smart gardeners are planting what they can as soon as possible. In case you've never noticed, we have a short growing season, so the sooner you can get started the better.

Hardy overwintered trees and shrubs and perennials are being cleaned up as I write this and they can all be planted as soon as the soil is not muddy. Early planting lets you take advantage of the extensive spring root expansion that occurs before leaves appear on top.

I started writing this on Monday morning but spent the afternoon preparing and planting 2/3 of my gardens.

Don't forget the free seminars ahead. **Happy Earth Day (past). Think Green. May you all have a healthy, sustainable and fruitful season. Eric.**

We are all sick and tired of spam so if this e-mail finds you disinterested, hit the **SafeUnsubscribe** button at the bottom and you'll receive no more. If however you are interested and you know someone else who would appreciate mountain gardening tips, well then please **forward this** to them so they can subscribe.

## Gardening Now !



Tomatoes and peppers should be started inside 8-10 weeks before going outside in mid-late-May. It is already a little late but fortunately, our custom grown

areas that have not recovered.

Lime helps many turfgrasses thrive.

Ideally you'd have a soil test performed to determine your needs but with a small lawn and moderate usage that is seldom done.



If you've never spread limestone on your lawn, now is a good time to test it. Try 1 pound of AG-65 Dolomite limestone over a 5'x5' patch as soon as the snow melts to see if it makes a difference. I've seen spectacular results in many cases.

### Earth Day 2010

April 22 marked the 40th anniversary of Earth Day, the modern environmental movement with a goal of a healthy, sustainable environment.



Villager summer helper Erica Larusson show off "Trashion" at an Earth Day celebration last Saturday in Squaw Valley.

Rethink what you use, Repurpose what you can and Respect others, yourself and your environment... and of course, Reduce, Recycle and Reuse.

### Pottery Special



We went so long this winter waiting for a pottery delivery that we overloaded a little when we finally received the truck. For the next 2 weeks, with a coupon from this newsletter, you'll receive 25% off almost all of the Glazed Pottery from D&T (the label's say "D&T")

See the discount coupon below.

**May 1 - Saturday, 10:00-11:30 am: Post-Winter Garden Revival** After the apocalyptic ravages of Sierra cement, rogue plow drivers and voracious mammals, there's much that can be done to salvage wrecked plants. We'll discuss nuts, bolts, splints, stakes and masking tape to bring your woody trees and shrubs back from crushing winter defeat. Often lawns and groundcovers only need a little TLC to revive with vigor. Taught by ISA Certified Arborist - Eric Larusson. *You have our sympathy and understanding.*



varieties are already starting to arrive.

I've already planted sweet-pea seeds and I'll plant germinated peas by this weekend. I planted lettuce, arugula, chard and radish seeds Sunday as well as cauliflower, brussels sprouts, broccoli and chard. I always plant Calendula and violas with my greens to remind me that their showy petals are beautiful and edible in salads.

I scratched one bag of Gromulch and one bag of Farmyard Blend into my 4'x8' beds and a little less into my smaller garden. I also used about a pound of Biosol, 3 handfuls of Dr. Earth Life, and a pound of dolomite. I won't use lime in the bed I'm putting potatoes in this year. After I planted the seeds and seedlings I watered them all in with Maxicrop sea weed extract. Northern sea kelp is loaded with natural plant hormones that stimulate root growth, Kelp also helps fight disease, promote beneficial microbes and it provides essential micro nutrients.

Look for the **Vegetable Gardening seminar hand-out** as soon as Sarah finishes updating it before the class tonight.

the Vegetable seminar was Wednesday but the hand-outs are available at [www.villagernursery.com](http://www.villagernursery.com)

## Orphans Plants for Adoption

These are plants that we believe will thrive in any garden but have been broken, bent, chewed or otherwise stressed to the point that we cannot keep them in the pot (or in the nursery) any longer.



They need homes and we're sending them to good homes for cheap. There are #20g trees and shrubs all the way down to 4" pots of perennials and groundcovers. We are moving them out this week between / after storms and should be ready by the weekend (4/30) They will only be there for a week or so. If you'd like a larger quantity of them, ask us.

**Our Price:** 4" - 25¢      **Our Price:** #1g - \$1.00  
**Our Price:** #2g - \$3.00      **Our Price:** #5g - \$5.00

## New OMRI Certified Organic Fertilizer



In an effort to satisfy even the most discerning organic gardeners we have new **OMRI certified Gardner & Bloome fertilizers**. They have a rich mix of organic materials and a giant blend of beneficial microbes to colonize the rhizosphere. You deserve it, your organic garden deserves it.

Thank You for being such great clients and friends. We learn so much from all of you every year. We strive to improve the nursery experience every season, build

some trees and shrubs suffer every winter.

**May 13 Thursday, 5:30-7:00 pm: Container Vegetables and Prolific Tomatoes in Truckee - Workshop** - This is a workshop and seminar for container vegetable gardening. A small materials fee (\$25) covers a hands-on tomato planting, Ocean Forest potting soil and Fox-Farm fertilizer. Class size is limited to 15 - please pre-register at 587-0771 or online @ <http://www.villagernursery.com/calendar>

*Vegetable and Tomato aficionados and novices are welcome. Container gardening techniques, organic methods, hand pollination, soil types, common problems, etc. Bring your own success stories to share with the class. It's really not that difficult, 4 pots yield a great deal of food.*



**May 16 Sunday, 10-11:30 am, Container Vegetables and Prolific Tomatoes in Truckee - Workshop** - *This is a repeat of the previous workshop*

*Sun Gold Tomato and seminar for folks who cant make a weekday evening class.*

better benches, pave a bit more path, plant a few more beds and especially bring in ever more unique hardy perennials, trees and shrubs. More showy easy-to-grow natives. More tough and showy annuals for building dramatic, long-lasting planters. More righteous pottery to show off lush houseplants or those crazy beautiful annuals.



*Spring Carrots*

Rob and Eric met with some Master Nursery friends from Carson City, Susanville and Reno. We gathered at The Garden Shop (on west

Mayberry) in Reno (just east off west McCarran). Of course our plants are suited for Truckee / Tahoe but their new location, their gardens and their atmosphere is really nice and worth a visit.

The weather forecast is calling for beautiful sunshine and warm days. We'll see you when your garden melts out.

Sincerely,

Villager Nursery Owners and Staff.



We have been attending workshops and conferences throughout the winter and are loaded with the latest knowledge of what works best. We'll tell you about some of it in the next set of notes.



**Save 25%**

Off any Glazed D&T pots. There are many sizes and styles to choose from. Great for small planters and house plants. Let us help you put together a decorative gift. Must present coupon in person. *Show us this coupon on your smartphone.*

**Offer Expires: May 16, 2010**

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