

Villager Nursery and Gifts Update

April Twenty Ten



Dear Eric,

Happy Easter. Have a wonderful day. Each snowflake is a little more slow-release moisture that our gardens and our forests need. Spring always arrives, eventually.

We are finally clearing out the cobwebs from the greenhouses and there are loads of early perennials already in bloom. ([Primulas](#), [Doronicum](#), [Clematis alpina](#), [Anemone sylvestris](#) to name a few), Jose and Eric have been holding down the fort 3-4 days a week this winter helping indoor gardeners with nutrients, soils, pests and houseplants while painting, repairing, tidying and ordering for this summer and beyond (We have cool native plants being grown for 2015 at this point).



We had more [vole](#) and rabbit damage this winter than in the previous 36. Our landscape suffered severely from the plows on Donner Pass and from the private driveway above us. We had quite a few trees break. Some we will repair, some we will, unfortunately, need to replace. There will again be a class on "resurrection and minor repairs" this spring. Check the calendar next week for the date and time.

This brief newsletter is to let you know that we finally have www.villagernursery.com v4.0 - our 4th website version - on-line, now. We have only 3 of the 10 pages up and running and the content is being added hourly but there is some good info on there already, the classes have started to appear on the [calendar page](#). We are hoping for feed-back and assistance in making the website a good reference for all high Sierra and mountain gardeners. Really, if you love us at all, please give us your [input](#). We will do our absolute best to please you.

We understand that it is human nature for us to be fiercely loyal to what is good for us. We want [our website](#) to be very good for you.



Spring Lawn Repair

Topdressing is KEY



Kellogg's Every Year. I just made that up. It is true though. In my early years with the nursery besides building benches in the back of the nursery and helping with the maintenance crew and pinching petunia buds, I would deliver flowers (the Villager was THE florist in town for 27 years). Whenever I delivered flowers to a home with a beautiful lawn, I'd ask what their "secret" was. I heard about hauling soil from mountain lakes and about using tons of chemicals and how they mow only just before a thunderstorm - the stories were across the spectrum of reality... except for one habit they all had. Every one of the owners of the very best looking lawns put down a layer of compost over the lawn every spring.

I am a true believer. My lawn looks great in summer. I fertilize in the fall with Biosol. I fertilize every other year in May with Dr. Earth. but every spring, after raking, I topdress my lawn every spring with Kellogg's Topper. I've skipped it three times in the past 10 years and every time I have, the lawn takes a dive in late July. If you topdress with a fine mature compost every spring, you introduce fresh composting microbes that break-down the straw left-over from winter, you re-introduce them into the soil as well and you add a fresh micro-layer of mulch to protect and feed the roots of the resurrecting grass plants. You will fertilize less and water less. Topper is here for you and if you buy 4, you get 1 free. Each 2cu.ft. bag covers about 200sq.ft..

Wildflower Seed

Don't miss the best time year for seeding wildflowers. If plants could have their way, they'd keep their seeds in a cold dry place all winter and then toss them about with the last few snow storms. Unfortunately, their seed stalks usually can't hold up to our Sierra winters. You however have the opportunity to help the seeds out. Those seeds you collected last fall that you've kept in the pantry should be mixed with a little Topper and a little Dr. Earth or Biosol and tossed over the last few inches of snow. If YOUR snow is gone then loosen the soil with a rake first. Our "Strictly Native" mix is a hardy combination of colorful local natives.



Happy Easter. We hope you've had a great winter and enjoyed all the powder and bluebird days. Please check-out and comment on the emerging [website](#). Info sheet, class hand-outs and the seminar schedule entries are all being added daily. We eagerly await your [feedback](#).

Sincerely,

Villager Botanical Nursery & Gifts



**Save
25%**

Earth Day Coupon - Save 25%, with this coupon, off one purchase of Native wildflower seed, Organic Dr. Earth or Biosol fertilizers. You must bring in this coupon to receive the discount on a one-time purchase. Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle. Turn off the lights, take shorter showers, fix leaks, replace incandescent bulbs with fluorescent bulbs, check-out the "Trashion" Show in Squaw Village on 4/24 at 2:00pm. **Be good and try to leave this place BETTER than it was when you got here.**

Offer Expires: 4/25/10

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