

New Arrivals

Flags
Birdbaths, pottery
Seed starting supplies
Botanical Interest seeds
Seeds- organic & heirloom
Bird, bee & butterfly seed mixes
Cover crops, buckwheat, clover
Black Gold soils
Seed sprouters
2013 Husquvana Power Equipment

Special Events

Pet Adoptions

1/12 - New Leash Animal Rescue
1/26 - New Leash Animal Rescue
2/2 - New Leash Animal Rescue
2/9 - L I Kitties
2/23 - New Leash Animal Rescue
3/2 - New Leash Animal Rescue



March 2nd - Customer Appreciation Day

Looking Ahead:

Ornamental, fruit & nut trees, berries
Camellias - including the tea making variety
Potatoes, onions, strawberries & asparagus
Mason bees
Summer bulbs
Chicken orders for delivery in March
(Baby chick order forms will be in the store
and on our website: www.talmagefarm.com)

A Last Thought:

“JOIN US” beginning in January for our Seminars

Jan 16th @ 6 p.m. Beginning Beekeeping



March 16th - Chick Days 10am - 2pm



April 6th - Camellia Seminar 2pm- 4pm



PRSRT STD
U.S POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT 45
RIVERHEAD, NY

Talmage Farm Agway
1122 Osborn Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901

January - February
2013



GREEN THUMB PRINTS

The Gardening Newsletter of Talmage Farm Agway

... *We've caught the bug.*

No, not the Flu thank goodness but the gardening bug. Seeds have been arriving & we've begun to set aside our collection of vegetables & flower seeds. Barely into winter with its first blast of arctic air, we're already looking forward to spring. I'll try some abyssum, a cool season annual for the bees. Sugar snap peas, a vegetable garden must, and something new, morning glory sunrise serenade - it's a heirloom with double ruffled ruby red flowers. While winter will be with us for a while and we'll still need ice melt and snow shovels, peruse our seed racks and maybe you'll catch the bug too!

January is the time to:

- * Start fragrant sweet pea's and pansies indoors
- * Check stored summer bulbs (gladiolas, dahlias, etc.)
- * Check seed starting equipment - labels, pots, trays and grow lights. If using last years equipment, clean with a 10% bleach solution.
- * Plan vegetable & flower beds. Remember to rotate crops.
- * Keep ice melt on hand. Pet safe products are available.

How to: Check Seed Viability

If you have seeds leftover from prior years you can use this simple test to check their germination rate. The conditions that seeds are stored is a key factor in their viability. They are best stored in a cool dry place. Most seeds should be plump & firm an indication of seed quality. Seeds such as corn & peas are “wrinkled” and perfectly fine, so it's best to test. Count 20 seeds & spread on a moistened paper towel. Fold over and place in a zip lock plastic bag. Label variety and date. Keep @ approximately 70°. Check over the course of a week. If less than half germinates, toss the pack.

Earth Friendly Choices: Earthworm Castings

Black Gold has the scoop on poop! The ultimate compost available to gardeners, castings are a source of readily available nutrients and create good soil structure. Odorless it can be used in potted plants and garden beds. Add some to your seed starting mixes or dilute with water & use as a foliar 'tea' fertilizer on plants.

February is the time to:

- *If hellebore leaves are winter damaged trim them before buds appear.
- *Apply a second coat of anti desiccant to evergreens. Temperature should be above 40°.
- *Fertilize houseplants
- *Prune grapes, fruit trees and berries.
- *At the end of the month start cool season veggies such as broccoli, cabbage & cauliflower indoors. Start leeks too! When the grass like foliage is 3 inches tall, trim by half.

Garden FAQs Storm & wind burn to White Pines

Whether along the coast or inland of the bays & ocean, white pine damage has been severe. The burn (browning foliage) is most prevalent on the area most exposed to the wind and salt spray. Erect a burlap wind barrier, and water trees during dry spells even in the winter if the ground is not frozen. Keeping trees healthy through the growing season will aid in their recovery.

Garden Trivia



The most animated bird at our feeders is the black capped chickadee. They weigh about as much as a dozen paper clips.

Talmage Tip

Provide suet cakes in addition to bird seed. Suet is a high calorie food that will attract woodpeckers and chickadees among others. They'll provide the needed calories for surviving winter's freezing temperatures.

Something Different: Take a Walk

Take a stroll in the great outdoors for the Great Backyard Walk@ the William Floyd Estate, Feb.16th. You will be guided through the varied habitats to count & tally the numerous varieties of birds found on the Estate. Contact trip leader, MaryLaura, at 631-399-2030 for details.

The Chicks are coming!

The Chicks



Beginning in March

Talmage Tip

Recycle your Christmas tree.

Decorate it with popcorn, cranberries & fruit for bird food and to provide shelter. Use the evergreen boughs in the garden to prevent perennials from heaving out of the ground. You can do all of the above then chip and add the mulch to the garden beds.



Garden Project: Make Aromatic Potpourri from your Christmas tree

Combine dried crumbled needles with cloves, broken cinnamon sticks, dried orange peel and orris root. *(found in drug & health food stores) Add a few drops of fir, pine or cedar essential oil. Keep covered for approximately 1 week to let scents blend, stirring often. Display in bowls or use as a stuffing for scented pillows.

Talmage Tip

If you have ever thought about grafting fruit trees, now is the time for taking those cuttings for grafting in April. Wrap cut twigs in damp paper towels and place in a seal proof plastic bag. Freeze until spring.

The Perennial Corner

Ordering product for spring at the Nursery allows us to review the previous years hits & misses.

This year you'll find the classic old fashion favorites, 4 new varieties of iris pumila, a dwarf iris for rock gardens & borders, native indian pink, varieties of camellias new to us and bee, bird & butterfly plants.

Visit us beginning in March when the Camellias and fruit trees begin the arrival of our spring products and find something worthy of space in your garden.



Talmage Farm Agway
1122 Osborn Avenue
Riverhead, NY 11901

631-727-3100
Hours
Monday-Saturday 8am to 5pm
Sunday, 9am to 5pm

www.talmagefarm.com