

GARDEN HEIGHTS NURSERY · 2026

SPRING NEWSLETTER



CELEBRATING
30 YEARS

GARDEN HEIGHTS NURSERY





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SPRING HOURS

Mon-Sat | 9am-5:30pm
 Sunday | 9am-5pm

A LETTER FROM LOU



As we celebrate Garden Heights' 30th anniversary, I'm filled with gratitude, pride, and excitement. When I began this journey in the spring of '96, my hope was to create a garden center that would inspire our customers with beautiful plants and products, offering a unique retail experience supported by friendly, knowledgeable staff.

Over the past 30 years, it has been an incredible journey as we've grown, evolved, and expanded- and none of it would have been possible without you, our loyal customers. At its heart, Garden Heights has always been about community, connection, and sharing the joy that comes from gardening, watching things grow, and spending time in nature.

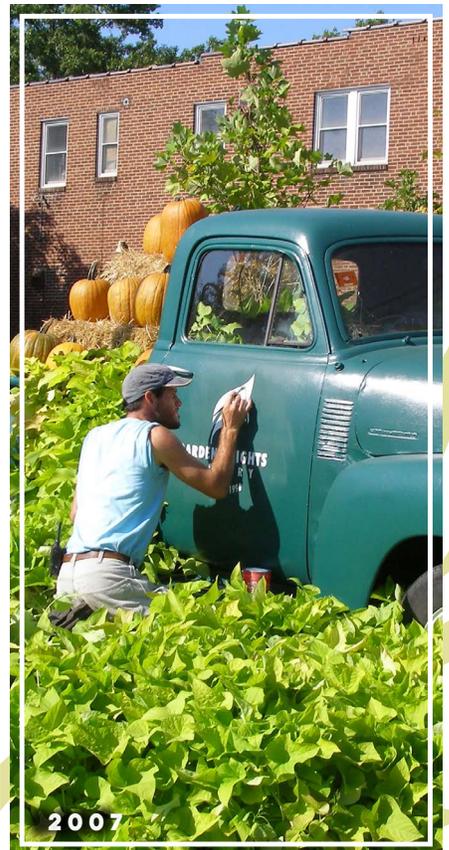
I am deeply thankful for the continued support of our community, and I look forward to celebrating today while growing together well into the future. Here's to the next chapter and many seasons to come.

With gratitude and happy gardening,

Lou

GH OVER THE YEARS

2026 marks the 30th anniversary of Garden Heights! These photos share a glimpse of the people, plants, and moments that have shaped the nursery along the way. Here's to celebrating 30 years and many more seasons growing together!





HERBS IN BLOOM

BRINGING FRAGRANCE,
BEAUTY, AND POLLINATORS
TO SPRING PLANTINGS

FRAGRANT HERBS, HAPPY GARDENS

INCORPORATING HERBS INTO ANNUAL FLOWER BEDS AND CONTAINERS IS AN EASY AND REWARDING WAY TO ELEVATE YOUR SPRING PLANTINGS WHILE ALSO SUPPORTING POLLINATORS.

Herbs are near and dear to my heart; they were the first plants that truly drew me into gardening. Their fragrance and purpose were irresistible. It's easy to see why, as many herbs are just as beautiful as traditional annuals, offering striking foliage, unique textures, and season-long interest. Most herbs are not particular about soil and love our St. Louis humidity.

If you are interested in fragrance, **SCENTED GERANIUMS** (a personal favorite, and so many to choose from!) bring lush greenery, texture and nostalgic aromas, while **LEMON VERBENA** adds an airy form and intoxicating citrus scent that fills the air when brushed or touched. These plants bring walk-by aromatherapy to the garden - no effort required, just touch a leaf and breathe!

CARDINAL BASIL provides impressive, large burgundy blooms and a wonderful slightly anise or licorice-like flavor. Create an eye-catching contrast by pairing **AMETHYST BASIL** with other annuals. Beyond their beauty, many basil varieties offer natural pest protection—they help repel aphids and other pests from neighboring plants. There's something deeply satisfying about snipping fresh basil for dinner from the same container that's brightening your patio with cascading calibrachos or cheerful marigolds.

EUCALYPTUS & CURRY PLANT (although not what is used in actual curry dishes and is strictly ornamental) add silvery-blue leaves and a modern, sculptural look that gives mixed plantings depth and movement. They both offer unmistakable aroma and drought tolerance. Eucalyptus stems are also wonderful



for fresh or dried arrangements, giving you cut flower material right from your containers or garden.

These next plants don't just look good, they play an important role in creating a pollinator-friendly garden. A Garden Heights customer favorite, **MEXICAN BUSH SAGE** produces velvety purple flower spikes that are especially attractive to bees and butterflies later in the season, along with **LION'S TAIL** that brings bold, bright orange blooms that hummingbirds and bees find irresistible.

Oreganos, particularly ornamental varieties like **KENT BEAUTY**, form soft cascades of pink flowers that are both unique and give a cottage feel to planters. **GOLDEN OREGANO** is a designer's favorite for adding in that chartreuse pop of color that can complete every container arrangement.

I love to swap out traditional choices like Spikes or Purple Fountain Grass for **LEMONGRASS**, which gives the same look but with the added benefit of fragrance, flavor, and versatility. Another favorite is **BLUE RAIN ROSEMARY**, which is a trailing variety perfect for softening the edges of containers and raised beds and which can be easily harvested for the kitchen.

When planning in-ground beds, consider placement carefully. Use taller herbs like **BRONZE FENNEL** or **PURPLE-LEAFED BASIL** as focal points among shorter annuals, creating height variation and visual interest. Position frequently harvested herbs like **PARSLEY** and **CHIVES** near pathways or bed edges for easy access. When grown in full sun with good drainage, they will thrive alongside annuals and benefit from light, regular trimming, which promotes bushier, more attractive growth.

By weaving herbs into your spring beds and containers, you create gardens that are fragrant, buzzing with activity, beautiful to look at, helpful to pollinators, naturally pest-resistant, and can be enjoyed both outdoors and in the kitchen.

THIS BLEND OF BEAUTY AND FUNCTION IS WHAT MAKES GARDENING SO DEEPLY SATISFYING.

Stop by the nursery this spring to get inspired, experiment with herbs in your plantings, and let our team help you create impactful plantings with a purpose.



MEET THE TEAM



DENISE is one of our managers as well as our annuals, veggie, and herb buyer! With decades of retail experience, she loves helping customers with both indoor and outdoor plants!

ANNUALS



CREATE CONTAINER PLANTINGS THAT THRIVE

HOW MATERIAL, SIZE,
AND PLACEMENT SHAPE
YOUR PLANTINGS

ONE OF THE MOST CRUCIAL FACTORS FOR YOUR CONTAINER PLANTING IS THE CONTAINER ITSELF.

When designing a container planting, regardless of season, the first thought on most people's mind is plant selection. Plants that attract pollinators, plants that grow tall or ones that trail; it's easy to get carried away thinking of all amazing combinations! However one of the most crucial factors to your container planting surviving and thriving all season long is the container itself.

WHEN BEGINNING TO DESIGN YOUR NEXT CONTAINER PLANTING THIS YEAR, START BY CONSIDERING THE CONTAINER YOU WILL PLANT IN.



Factors like a container's material, size, and placement all are important to consider before you make plant selections.

Missouri's hot summers and freezing winters have an impact on your containers. The material of a container affects its durability and maintenance requirements. With so many container options available, here is a quick reference to help you make an informed choice.

CONTAINER MATERIAL GUIDE

TERRA COTTA / CLAY

is a porous material which allows roots to breathe and provides excellent drainage. Drawbacks to their porous nature means they require more frequent watering and may be damaged if left outside during Missouri winters.

GLAZED CERAMIC

containers with drainage holes are durable all season options for our climate. Drawbacks are that they are heavy making them difficult to move and are often a more expensive option.

PLASTIC AND RESIN

are lightweight, durable, and holds moisture well, Drawbacks are they often need proper stabilization to avoid tipping over. Choose



heavy-duty options to avoid cracking.

IMPROVISED CONTAINERS

Don't be limited by traditional materials. Any non-toxic vessel that is large enough to provide adequate space for soil, root growth and drainage can become a planting container. One of our favorite Create clients has an old cast iron tub repurposed into an impressive planter container in her backyard.

CONTAINER SIZE ALSO DIRECTLY IMPACTS THE HEALTH AND GROWTH OF YOUR PLANTS.

SIZE RIGHT FOR ROOTS.

A container that is too small may restrict root growth leading to undeveloped plants. On the other hand, a container that is too large can cause issues like excessive water retention or top-heavy plants. Finding the perfect balance is essential for plant health and vigor.

SIZE FOR MATURITY.

Different plants have varying root systems and growth patterns. When designing container planting, consider the mature size of each plant and the amount of space each will require.

SIZE FOR WATERING FREQUENCY.

Container size impacts maintenance needs too. A smaller pot will require more frequent watering, while a large container will be a little more tolerant of neglect.

PLACEMENT IS A FINAL CONSIDERATION WHEN DESIGNING YOUR NEXT PLANTING.

Beyond placing your container in the best vantage point, you should think about the purpose of your design.

Are you looking to define a walkway, create a visual border, or simply add color and texture to your outdoor space? Keep in mind, wherever you place your container it will need proper drainage accommodations.

PREVENT STAINS WITH PROPER DRAINAGE.

Setting a container with a smooth bottom directly on a smooth patio surface can limit drainage and leave a stain. Luckily there are a variety of risers, feet and plant stand options that can accommodate any budget or design style.



PROTECT FROM FREEZING TEMPERATURES.

If water can drain out, there will be less pressure on the pot during freezing temperatures and less risk of roots drowning any time of year. Pro tip, give your container a lift with pot feet before you add your soil and plants to make for lighter work!



Whenever you are ready to start your next container design, we're here to help in all seasons, and we love to put our education and experience to work for you.

Click the QR code to the right to have our Create team design and install your next container planting!



**SCHEDULE
A PLANTING
CONSULTATION
FOR SPRING!**



MEET THE CREATE TEAM



AMY loves container gardening and experimenting with creative plant combinations. Mixing perennials, houseplants, herbs, and annuals in unexpected ways is her favorite way to design something unique.



KATIE loves designing container gardens and helping create plant combinations that thrive all season long. She enjoys collaborating with clients and bringing creative container ideas to life.



CURATING AN INNER OASIS

TIPS FOR CURATING
YOUR PLANT COLLECTION
& STYLING YOUR HOME
WITH PLANTS

A CURATED PLANT COLLECTION WILL EBB AND FLOW BASED ON YOUR CURRENT LIFESTYLE & WHAT YOUR PLANTS NEED.

As a fellow plant hobbyist, there are times in our life when we have to make tough decisions about our collections. That was me last year when I moved house and clumped the majority of my plants into one room.

THAT MOVE LED ME DOWN THE ROAD OF CURATING THAT SPACE INTO MY OWN PERSONAL OASIS.

LET'S EMBARK ON A JOURNEY, INTO THE PROCESS I USED TO HELP ME.

WHAT TYPE OF PLANT PERSON ARE YOU?

Keeping plants is a hobby that requires an investment of time, money, space, and physical and mental availability. I took a step back and thought about what type of plant person I was. How plants factor into my lifestyle and the type of lighting my space has to offer.

Intrinsically, I am a plant collector who loves to watch plants grow. When I assessed my collection I chose to keep a reasonable number of plants that I could take care of and only the highest quality of foliage that brings me joy.





SINCE I LIVE WITH TWO CURIOUS CATS WHO LOVE TO BITE AND BAT AT MY PLANTS, I PLACED PET SAFE PLANTS IN THE COMMON SPACES AROUND THE HOUSE.

If you have pets at home, keep an eye out for our custom Garden Heights Nursery pet-safe stickers with Ginger's face on it. I make sure to fact check with the ASPCA® (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals®) as a resource.

VISIT THE ASPCA WEBSITE HERE FOR MORE INFO!



PLANT STYLING ILLUMINATES THE REALITY OF WHAT A SPACE OFFERS IN TERMS OF SPACE, LIGHT, TEMPERATURE, AND CHOOSING THE PLANTS THAT WILL FLOURISH BEAUTIFULLY AND THRIVE.

The room my plants live in has one window that faces Southeast and the room is rather warm. As a general rule of thumb, North facing windows provide plants with ambient light all throughout the day. South facing windows offer direct sunlight throughout the day. West facing windows provide bright intense direct sunlight in the afternoon and indirect light

in the morning. East facing windows provide gentle morning direct sunlight and indirect light for the rest of the day.

Knowing the direction your windows face is a great tool to use when deciding where to place plants in your home. Although the window I have is Southeast facing, half of the room is low light. Because the daylight is weak or far reaching, I've added grow lights for additional support.

PUT ACCESSORIES TO WORK.

I curated one room into my own personal oasis by utilizing a book shelf for vertical height, plant stands and tables to create tiered displays, a shelf for extra plants, a couch and rug for cozy vibes and to top it off decorations to help complete the space.

At the end of the day, we have to be objective about the type of plant person we are. Are we a collector, a grower, and/ or a casual hobbyist who doesn't want to get too far into the weeds?

CREATE A SPACE THAT FEELS INTENTIONAL & ALIVE

And remember, if you need any helpful tips come visit me in the greenhouse at Garden Heights! We love being your source for a greener life.

MEET THE TEAM



NICOLE *loves curating unique plants and pottery pairings for the greenhouse. With a life-long love of plants, she's the perfect resource to help shape your growing collection.*

GREENHOUSE

ONE LEAF AT A TIME

REPLACING &
REBUILDING OUR
URBAN FOREST

IT CHANGED THE SKYLINE OVERNIGHT.

When the tornado tore through our community last June, it changed the skyline overnight. Streets once shaded by towering trees were left exposed. Familiar canopies that framed our homes and parks were reduced to splintered trunks and scattered branches. In the quiet that followed the storm, the absence of our trees felt just as heavy as any other loss.

Rebuilding has come in many forms—repairing roofs, restoring power, reopening businesses.

BUT ONE OF THE MOST HOPEFUL SIGNS OF RECOVERY HAS BEEN FAR SIMPLER:

PLANTING TREES AGAIN.

Replacing what was lost in our urban forest is more than a landscaping project. It's a symbol that we are putting down roots once more.

Before the storm, our trees cooled our streets, filtered the air, softened traffic noise, and caught the first heavy drops of summer rain. They were backdrops for block parties, graduations, and evening walks. When they fell, we didn't just lose shade—we lost gathering spaces and a sense of familiarity.

Replanting restores more than greenery. It restores comfort. It rebuilds habitat for birds and pollinators. It helps manage stormwater in a community newly aware of nature's force. Most of all, it signals that we believe in a future here.

There is something deeply moving about seeing new leaves where emptiness once lingered. A row of adolescent trees along a once-devastated street may look modest today, but they carry enormous promise. Growth is slower than destruction. A tornado can uproot decades in minutes.



REBUILDING A CANOPY TAKES PATIENCE. BUT EACH SEASON BRINGS VISIBLE CHANGE—NEW BRANCHES, THICKER TRUNKS, THE FIRST HINT OF FALL COLOR.

Recovery is happening, even when it feels gradual. We cannot replace overnight what nature took in a single afternoon. But we can commit to the steady work of renewal. Every tree planted is a declaration: we are still here. We are rebuilding thoughtfully. We are investing in tomorrow.

And as we continue this journey, Garden Heights Nursery—now celebrating its 30th year—remains your trusted source for the perfect specimens to help rebuild your urban canopy.

With experience, care, and a deep commitment to our community, we at Garden Heights stand alongside our neighbors in effort to restore our skyline and replant hope—one leaf at a time.

THE CAREFUL WORK OF RENEWAL

Replacing trees after a tornado requires intention and resilience—much like rebuilding homes.

1. CHOOSE FOR STRENGTH + DIVERSITY

Plant with the future in mind; select species not only for beauty, but for their ability to withstand wind, adapt to urban conditions, and contribute to a diverse canopy.

DIVERSITY HELPS ENSURE THAT ONE PEST OR DISEASE WON'T DEVASTATE OUR LANDSCAPE AGAIN, CREATING A STRONGER & MORE RESILIENT URBAN FOREST FOR GENERATIONS TO COME.

We love to serve as the community's source for a wide and diverse selection of trees you can count on, helping homeowners and neighborhoods choose the right species for the right place.

2. PLANT WITH PURPOSE

At Garden Heights we encourage and educate that each tree is planted properly—wide holes for root expansion, visible root flares, thoughtful mulching, and appropriate staking. After witnessing uprooted giants, we understand how critical strong root systems truly are. Giving young trees the right start ensures they will stand firm in seasons ahead.

Have questions? We are committed to educating customers on how to properly plant and care for their new trees, and also offers professional installation services are available to ensure every tree is set up for long-term success.

CONTINUED CARE ENSURES THAT TODAY'S ADOLESCENT TREES BECOME TOMORROW'S SHADE TREES.

3. CONTINUE CARE

Planting is only the beginning. The first few years are crucial to establishing a healthy, resilient tree. Consistent watering, seasonal inspections, structural pruning, and protection from lawn equipment all make a measurable difference. Continued care ensures that today's adolescent trees become tomorrow's shade trees. And when questions arise—about watering schedules, leaf drop, pests, or storm recovery—we're always here to help with guidance, solutions, and support every step of the way.

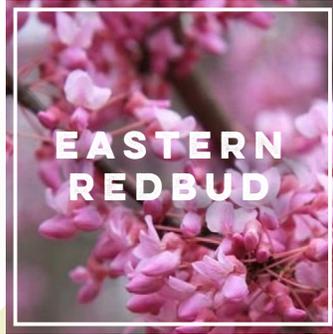
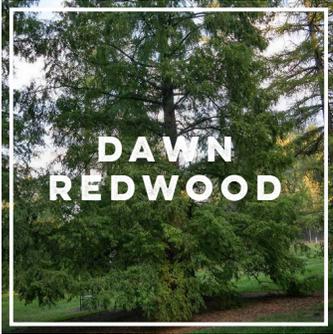
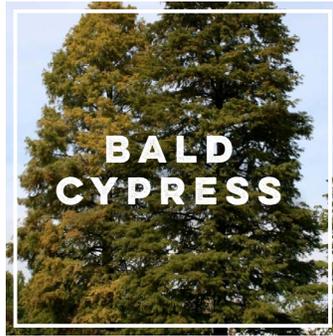
With ongoing expertise close to home, homeowners can confidently nurture their investment and strengthen our recovering canopy year after year.

MEET THE TEAM



STEVE is the General Manager + Sales Manager for all of our trees and shrubs! He has been with Garden Heights since the spring of 2004 and has 22 years of plant knowledge.

TREES + SHRUBS



A FEW OF OUR FAVORITES

WE CHOOSE THESE VARIETIES YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR THEIR VERSATILITY, RESILIENCE, AND COLOR!





**A SPECIAL
DAYLILY
COLLECTION**

**FROM LOCAL GROWER
JASON DELANEY**

10 HEMEROCALLIS VARIETIES

COMING THIS SPRING!

Garden Heights is excited to be collaborating with local grower Jason Delaney and his special selection of unique daylilies for the 2026 season. We are going to offer 10 different varieties in 2-gallon containers - all locally grown in Flora, Illinois! The 10 varieties will arrive throughout spring as they become retail-ready and be available for purchase! Stay tuned on our social media for arrival updates!

EMERALD SPLENDOR

24-inch tall rebloomer, flowering early to mid-season. Heavy budded and well branched, 5-inch fragrant light-yellow flowers. Leathery flowers of light yellow with deep green throat. Exceptional!

FLAMINGO DUET

22–24 inch tall, with 4.5-inch double fragrant flowers. Flowers for a long time in midseason. Hot coral flamingo pink double flowers, a tad on the shorter side, ideal for the border. Hybridized in Missouri!

FRIED GREEN TOMATOES

33 inches tall, midseason flowering. Heavily budded and well branched reblooming 5.5-inch flowers. Can be seen across the fields. Knockout green throat radiates onto petals. Dramatic!

INDY RHAPSODY

24 inches tall, early midseason flowering, occasional rebloom. Heavy budded, flowering for a long period. 5-inch flowers, brilliant red daylily with saturated sunset color. Hybridized in Indiana and as hardy as a rock.



MEET THE TEAM



JEFF is our perennial buyer and has worked at Garden Heights since 2014! You can find him in the perennials section, or anywhere Ginger can be found!

PERENNIALS

JUNGLE BEAUTY 30 inches tall with 5.5-inch flowers, midseason blooming. Vigorous grower with occasional rebloom immediately after the first scape set finishes. Excellent sunfast qualities that keep its dramatically dark flowers looking rich in the garden. Always a favorite among visitors.

LAVENDER BLUE BABY

28 inches tall, flowering early to mid-season. Heavily budded, well branched, reblooming 5.5-inch fragrant flowers. Stout medal winner, the highest award bestowed by The American Hemerocallis Society. A superb daylily that can be intensely colored in cooler weather.

MARDI GRAS PARADE

24 inches tall, early-midseason flowers that bloom for a long time. Reblooming heavily budded and well branched 3.75-inch flowers. Popular eyed daylily, bred in north-central Illinois, and hardy as a rock!

OLIVIA'S LOVE

24–30 inches tall with vibrant rose-pink 6-inch flowers, midseason blooming. Heavily budded and well branched plants produce abundant blooms throughout the season. Fragrant flowers and dependable garden performance make this one especially popular with visitors.

PAM HARDY

28–30 inches tall, early midseason 5-inch fragrant flowers. A favorite, unusual form lavender, named for a dear friend from Saint Louis. Hybridized in Missouri.

PEACOCK MAIDEN

30–36 inches tall, midseason flowering, rebloomer with 9.5-inch fragrant flowers. Heavily budded and well branched. Tall stems carry massive, dramatic flowers and can be seen across the field, a favorite.

To our customers, keep an eye on our social media as we share updates on when each of these unique daylily varieties arrives this spring!

For more information on Jason and his world adventures seeking new, unique varieties of daylilies, irises, and daffodils, please visit www.phsdaffodils.com.



EARLY SPRING TIPS

PREPARING YOUR
GARDEN AND LAWN FOR
A BEAUTIFUL SEASON

SPRING LAWN PLANNING STARTS HERE!

YOUR GUIDE TO USING PRE-EMERGENTS, FERTILIZERS, GRASS SEED FOR SPRING, PLUS A NEW PRODUCT FROM FOX FARM!



PRE-EMERGENT WEED CONTROL

DON'T WAIT OR TOO LATE: PREEN

One of the most important steps in early spring lawn care and bed preparation is applying a pre-emergent herbicide.

Preen is a great, easy-to-use product that keeps unwanted spring weeds from germinating. A granular product that must be evenly distributed by shaking the flip-top lid, then using a rake to work granules into the top layer of soil.



Water the area where applied. This product works by stopping germination, so the weed will never start to grow. It will prevent spring weeds such as Purple Deadnettle, Chickweed, Oxalis or Yellow Woodsorrel, and annual bluegrass.

The ideal time to apply pre-emergent is typically early to mid-March. The goal is to apply the product before soil temperatures reach 55°F consistently for several days, when weed seeds begin to germinate.

EARLY SPRING FERTILIZING

TREES & SHRUBS AND MORE!

Spring is the time when your beds and lawn start waking up from their winter dormancy. Applying an organic fertilizer helps ensure your area has the nutrients it needs to green up quickly and grow strong.

Espoma "Plant Tone" or Earthworm Castings will ensure nutrients in the soil as you apply within the drip line. For lawns, Espoma organic "All Season Lawn Food" is a kid- and pet-safe option to give your lawn the boost it needs. Use a spreader to distribute the granules, then water the lawn lightly.

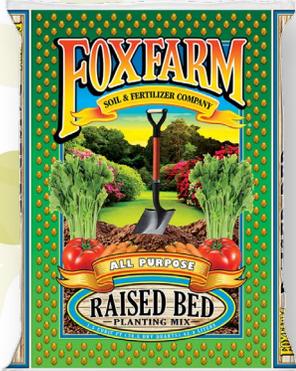


In USDA Zone 7, the ideal time to apply fertilizer is in mid to late March when your grass is starting to actively grow. Be sure to follow the instructions on the fertilizer package for proper application rates, and avoid over-fertilizing, which can lead to nutrient runoff and damage to your lawn.

NOW INTRODUCING FOXFARM RAISED BED PLANTING MIX

FOR FRUITS, VEGGIES & HERBS

This spring, we're excited to introduce a new product that's absolutely going to take your at home vegetable garden to new heights: Raised Bed Planting Mix from FoxFarm!



- In a 1.5 cubic foot bag
- Made from aged forest products, peat moss, and earthworm castings
- This raised bed planting mix is a premium blend designed for abundant harvests

Give it a try for your cool season vegetables, herbs, or summer tomatoes and peppers.

In our 30th year of business, it has been a great pleasure of mine to be of service to all the gardeners in the area.



STOP BY FOR ALL THE
VEGGIES & HERBS
FOR THE SEASON!

MEET THE TEAM



NICK is our hardgoods buyer and has a passion for helping you keep your landscape happy and healthy! He has been working at Garden Heights full time since 2019.

HARDGOODS

GINGER'S BUSY SPRING DAY

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF YOUR FAVORITE GARDEN CAT

As spring approaches at Garden Heights, Ginger, our resident nursery cat, is settling back into her busiest season. From helping open the shop in the morning to inspecting new plant deliveries and greeting visitors wandering the greenhouse, Ginger always seems to know when things are starting to wake up again. With longer days, fresh plants arriving, and plenty of gardeners stopping by, she has a full agenda ahead. Stop by the greenhouse and give Ginger a well-earned scratch behind the ears for a job well done.



9:00AM
OPEN UP
THE SHOP



11:00AM
DELIVERY
INSPECTOR



1:00PM
GREENHOUSE
NAP



3:00PM
BACK TO
GREETING



GARDEN HEIGHTS NURSERY

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