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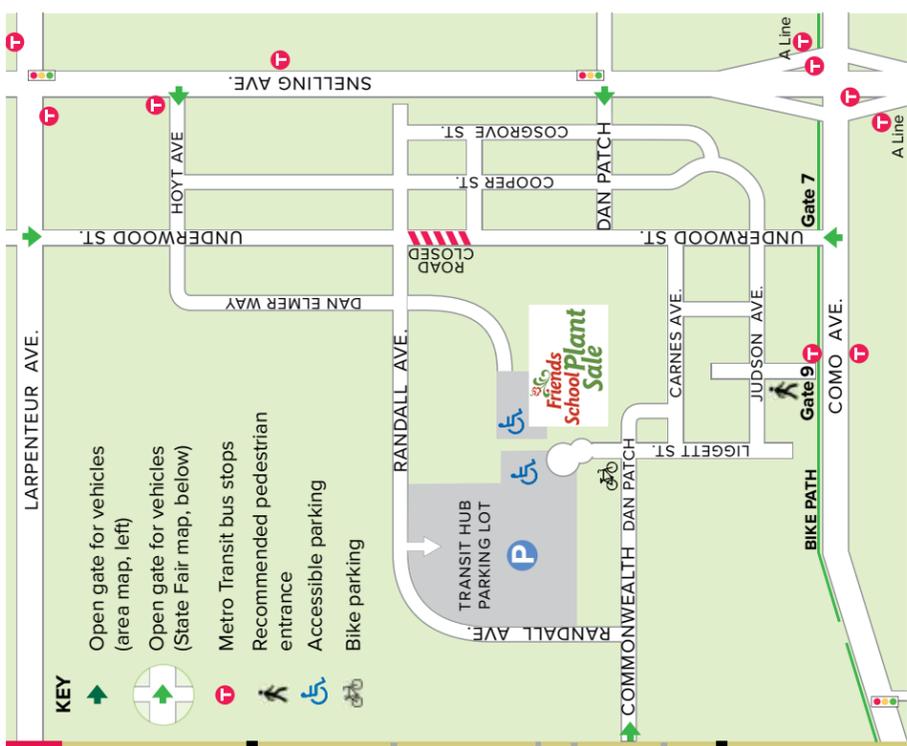
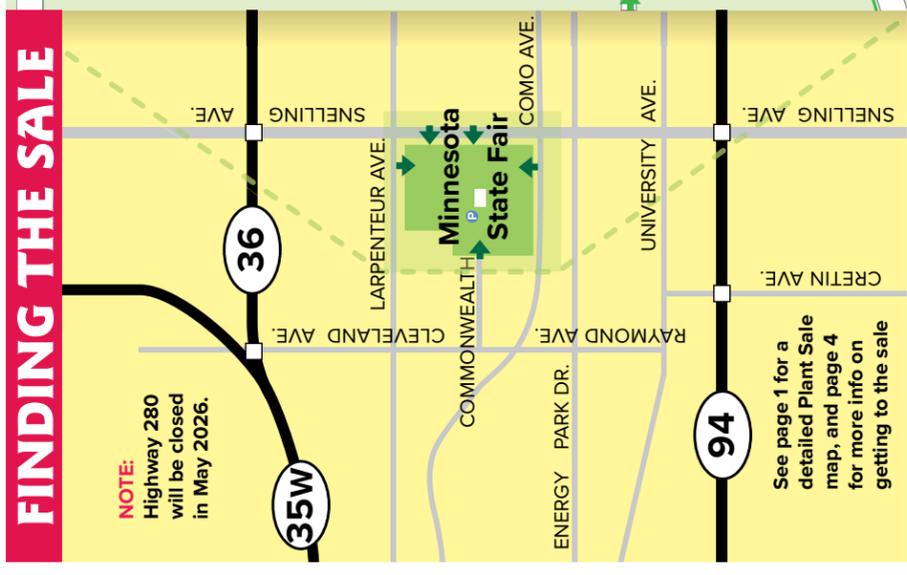
Friends School Plant Sale

FREE
 catalog



MOTHERS DAY WEEKEND
May 8-10, 2026
Minnesota State
Fair Grandstand
FREE ADMISSION

www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com



See page 1 for a detailed Plant Sale map, and page 4 for more info on getting to the sale

37th Annual Friends School Plant Sale

May 8, 9, and 10, 2026

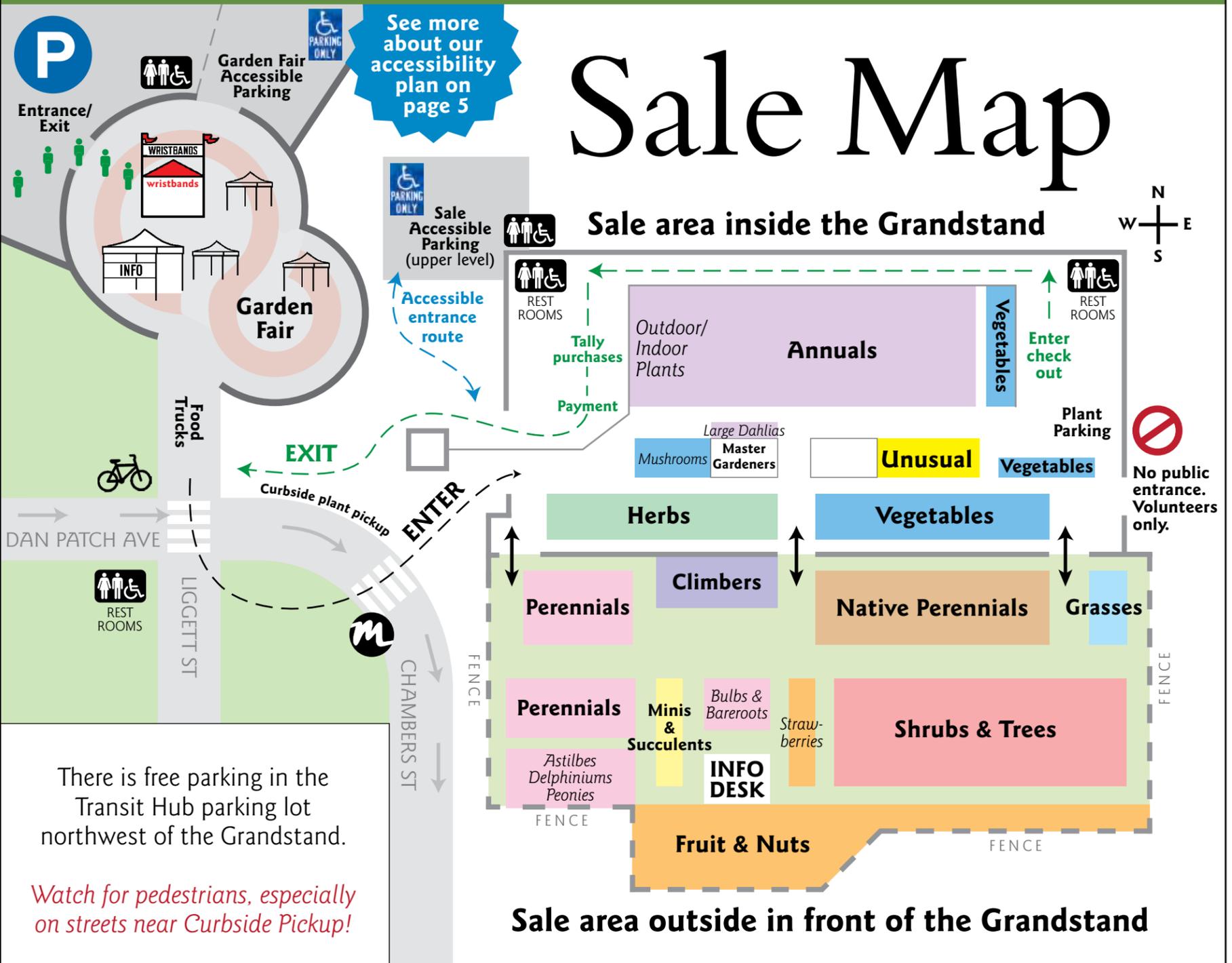
Friday 9:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. • Saturday 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Sunday remaining plants one-third off 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

At the Minnesota State Fair Grandstand • Free admission • Free parking

www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com

info@FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com • 651-621-8930 (711 relay service)



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What's New in 2026



Marigold,
Little Hero Mix, A260



Dahlia, Happy Days
Fuchsia Halo, A131



Flame Flower,
Castle Mix, A165

New accessible parking option

There are now two locations for accessible parking:

- The Transit Hub lot (same location as last year), close to the Garden Fair entrance.
- A new parking lot behind the Grandstand, closer to the sale entrance.



If you need additional accommodations or assistance, we welcome you to use these parking areas. Thank you to last year's shoppers for their feedback. For more information, see page 5, or visit FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/accessibility.

Parking reminder: No parking in the Midway lot

The Plant Sale's primary parking lot will once again be located in the State Fair's Transit Hub, northwest of the Grandstand. For more info on the lot's location in the Fairgrounds, see page 4.

This lot is big enough to fit everyone, but we did get some feedback last year that it's so big that finding your car can be difficult. We recommend dropping a pin on Google Maps to help you find your car!

Metro Mobility drop-off has changed

The Metro Mobility drop-off address is now 1780 Dan Patch Avenue. This is right in front of the sale's entrance. See details on page 5.

No MWGS at the Garden Fair this year

Minnesota Water Garden Society will not be selling water plants at the Garden Fair this year. They do not plan to hold a plant sale in 2026.

More information about wait times

For the first time, we have provided information on estimated entry wait times, based on when you arrive at the sale. See page 4.



You can sign up for texts after you receive your wristband, or on the day you shop at FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/wristbands. When you sign up, you are only asked for your phone number and wristband number. We delete all phone numbers after the sale is over.

You can also check for estimated wait times for wristband groups on the days of the sale at Entry.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com.

New hot pepper scale 🌶️🌶️🌶️🌶️

Our hot pepper section now includes a 5-pepper heat scale icon by each variety, which corresponds to Scoville heat units. If you would still like to see the SHU of a pepper, you can find that info in our online listings.

New plants

There are more than 200 new varieties in this year's sale:

- 51 annuals, including nine new dahlias, five coleus, and four petunias
- 40 perennials, with 11 lilies, six peonies, and seven daylilies
- 16 shrubs and trees, including three roses
- 17 herbs, including five lavender and two new gingers
- Six new clematis
- 39 unusual and rare plants, with nine peonies, four martagons, and two lady's slippers, including the return of the native species
- 27 vegetables, with six new tomatoes.



Rose, Reminiscent
Ginger, S126

—Friends School Plant Sale committee

About Friends School of Minnesota

Dear friends,

Thank you!! We appreciate your dedication to our plant sale and your support for our school.

Friends School of Minnesota first opened our doors in 1988. Like many small schools, we knew we would need to raise funds to help our school operate. We asked ourselves, "What kind of fundraiser makes sense for us?"

Our mission is "to prepare children to embrace life, learning and community with hope, skill, understanding and creativity." For a community that believes in peace, justice, simplicity, integrity, and serving the environment, what fundraiser could be better than a plant sale?

Our first plant sale catalog was one double-sided piece of 8.5 x 11 paper, and we sold a total of 2,000 plants. With the commitment of volunteers and shoppers like you, our sale has grown to what you see today.

The values of peace and equity—how to end injustice so that we may all experience true peace—were and are foundational principles of Friends School of Minnesota. That philosophy still lives at the heart of the plant sale community and our sale.

Your purchases, volunteer hours, and round-up donations play an important part in making Friends School a vibrant place where students can grow as learners and as people who value peace and justice.

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On our website, fsmn.org, you will see these words: "We prepare children to be active participants in our democracy. Our graduates leave with a foundation guided by values and an intellectual discipline that prepares them for a rich and successful academic life. They are prepared to ask complex, thoughtful questions, to find answers, and to advocate for themselves and others."

Your support of the plant sale helps us to bring this mission to life and allows us to create a school with:

- Generous tuition aid for over 48% of families
- Average class size: 16
- A dedicated specialist program including art, Spanish, physical education, and music

- Conflict resolution program to help students navigate relationships, understand differing perspectives, and express empathy—vital skills needed to build a more just world.

- Hands-on, outdoor environmental education

Thank you, again, for all you do to help the plant sale!

In gratitude,

Joe Mueller, Head of School
Friends School of Minnesota

p.s. We're located just two miles from the Fairgrounds in the Hamline Midway Neighborhood of St. Paul. Visit our website (fsmn.org) to learn more or schedule a tour.

"Friends School taught me about activism, history, and important current events that impact the world today. I'm thankful for everything I've learned here and how much it helped me grow as a person."

—Sonja, class of 2021

Every year, more than 20,000 people visit our plant sale. We try to make the shopping experience as smooth as possible. This is an overview of the sale. You can find more tips and updates on our website.

Where is the sale?

The sale is located at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, at the Grandstand building. On page 4, you can find more information about getting to the sale by car, bike, or transit. Parking is free. We also have two accessible parking lots. For more information on these, see page 5.

How do I get into the sale?

Our sale is free to attend, but while it is at its busiest, wristbands are needed for entry—from before the sale opens until at least early afternoon. Get one at the Wristband Booth, located on the west edge of the Garden Fair. For more information on wristbands and wait times, see page 4.

While you wait for your turn to enter, spend some time in the Garden Fair. You will be outside for this part, so dress for the weather! There's a list of Garden Fair exhibitors and food options on page 6.

When's the best time to come?

Each time has its own flavor. Friday and Saturday mornings attract the most people, so if you come at those times you will see the plant sale at its most festive and busy, with the best plant selection.

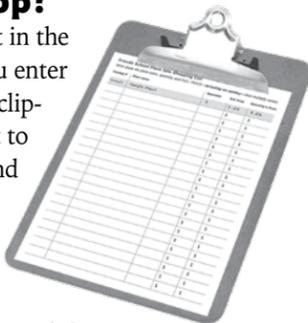
Later in the afternoon on Friday and Saturday is great for relaxed shopping with little waiting. Sunday is always an adventure. See what you can get for one-third off!

Find out more about when to visit the sale on page 4.

How do I shop?

At the Welcome Tent in the Garden Fair or as you enter the sale, you'll get a clipboard and tally sheet to record your plants and their prices. **Write down the plant names, prices, and quantities as you select them.** You will need this tally sheet in order to check out.

You can also write a list ahead of time (blank sheets are at tinyurl.com/fspList2026) or create an online shopping list with quantities and prices at FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/plants like the one shown here:



My Plant Wish List				
PLANT	POT SIZE	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
A016 Cherry pie - Ferns, Assorted	4-in. pot	\$6.00	1	\$6.00
A1076 Trailblazer Bead Top - Celery, Sun	4-in. pot	\$6.00	5	\$30.00
A164 Gardenmaster - Fuchsia	5.25-in. pot	\$7.00	3	\$21.00

Your online list shows each plant's catalog number and price. You can update the quantity for each plant to get an idea of how much your total will be. It's easy to remove plants if you change your mind. Print it out and bring it to the sale OR use your list on your phone.

If you've preprinted a shopping list from the website, remember to make notes on your list if you add or remove plants or change quantities.

Sale hours

Friday, May 8 9:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 9 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 10 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT

www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/doing-sale

How to Do the Sale

We encourage you to bring your own **boxes** or other containers. See page 34 for info on the raffle for people who bring their own! (We do also have boxes for people who can't bring their own.)



If you can, bring your own **cart or wagon**—we have a limited number of grocery carts, and having your own means no waiting for one! You will also be eligible for our raffle (see page 34 for more info).

Smile—you get to hang out with hundreds of other gardeners!

Wristbands are used to keep the entrance to the sale orderly and fair. See page 4 for info about our texting system for announcing entry numbers.

TALLY SHEET!

Most important: write down **ALL** of your plants and their prices as you select them.



Dress for the weather, but remember, no matter how warm it is outside, it's always cold in the Grandstand. Layers are your friend.

These **shoes** are made for walking... There are 2.5 acres of plants!

Are there lines?

There are three lines that you might experience:

- 1. Wristband line:** in the mornings.
- 2. Entry line:** this is where you go, briefly, once your wristband number has been called.
- 3. Checkout line:** If this occurs, it may seem long but it moves, in the words of one shopper, "freaky fast." Look for the "Enter Line Here" sign along the east wall.

Later in the day, there are usually no entry lines, and often no line at the checkout.

How are the plants organized?

Within each section (Herbs, Grasses, etc.) plants are alphabetical by their common names and are numbered as in the catalog. There is a map of the sections on page 1 of this catalog, and you can also look up plants, by common or Latin name, in the index, pages 58 and 59.

When you visit the sale, you will be given a more detailed paper map with specific aisle locations.

Are plants restocked?

Yes, we restock once on Saturday morning. All plants that we expect to be restocked are marked with a truck symbol 🚚 next to their name.

How do I know if a plant is still available?

We update our website as quickly as we can when we learn of crop failures, and during the sale on Friday and Saturday when a plant has sold out. You can see this information in the "Find plants" part of the website. We also send out an email on Saturday night with a broad overview of what is left for the discount sale. You can sign up for it at FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/email.

How do I carry my plants?

We have a limited number of shopping carts available for anyone to use. We strongly encourage you to bring your own cart from home if you have one, though! Bringing your own cart will guarantee that you get in as soon as you can, because at peak times we often run out of our carts.

We also provide boxes free of charge to all customers, many of which are strawberry boxes collected by volunteers from grocery stores.

If you bring your own cart or boxes, you are eligible to join our **Bring Your Own Box Raffle**, put on by our Zero Waste team! Every container you bring to the sale counts as one ticket. For more information about prizes, see page 34.

If you are getting a large tree, or need a second cart, you can leave your cart at **Plant Parking**, located by the checkout line entrance, and retrieve your plants when you're ready to check out.

How do I check out?

Checkout is a two-step process: Your plants are added up in the tallying area, based on your tally sheet, then you go to the cashier tables to pay. You can use check, cash, Apple Pay, or credit/debit card.

Always write the full price of plants on your tally sheet. On discount Sunday, the one-third discount is taken at the register.

After paying, you can **leave your plants at Curbside Plant Pickup** west of the Grandstand and return to get them with your car. Please **drive slowly and watch for pedestrians**. If you used one of our shopping carts, you cannot take the cart to your car. Volunteers in orange vests will help at the curb.

Note: If you parked in the accessible lot behind the Grandstand, do not use Curbside Plant Pickup. Instead, bring your cart back up to the accessible lot, and volunteers will assist with getting your plants loaded and cart returned.

Who can answer my questions?

While in the Garden Fair, volunteers at the Welcome Tent can help you. Once inside the sale, look for students and volunteers in bright yellow "Ask Me" vests, or sale organizers with pink hats. You can also get help at the Info Desk tent (outside under the big ramp in front of the Grandstand), and from Master Gardeners inside at the center of the Grandstand.

Thanks!

This catalog and our website is brought to you by:

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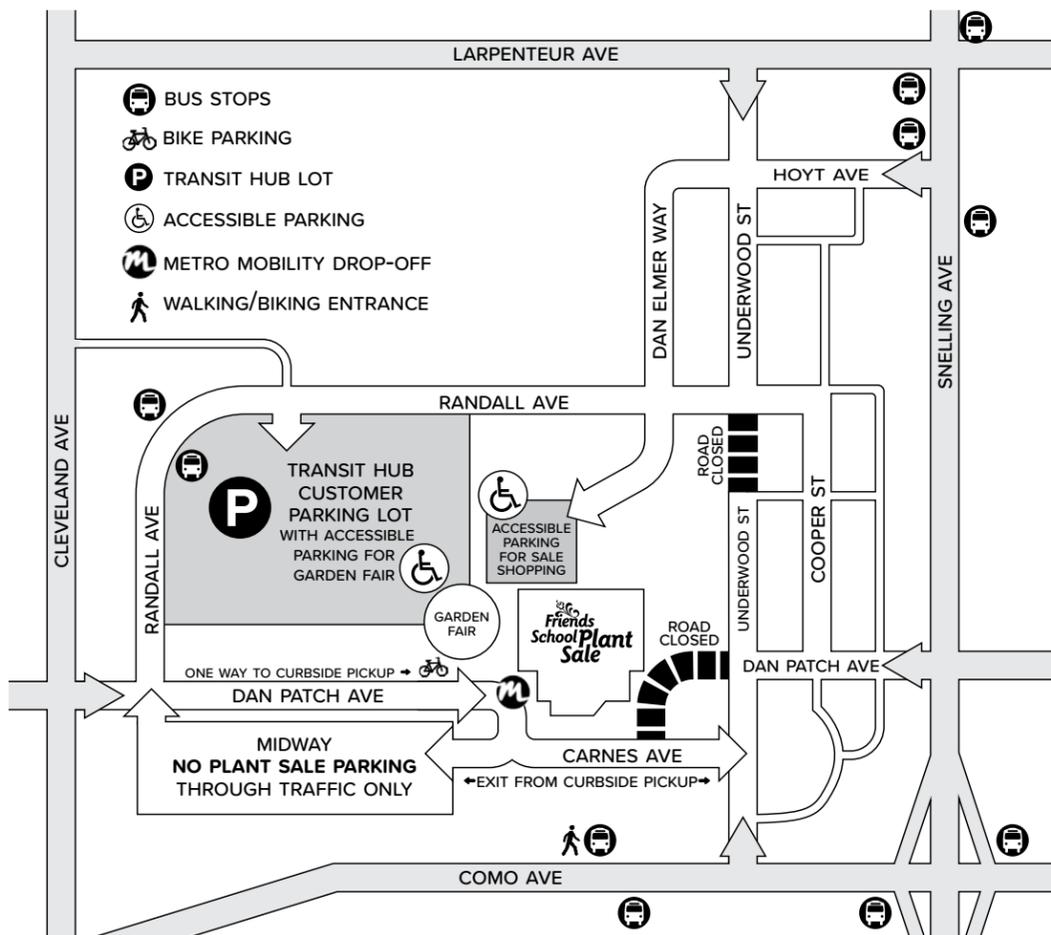
On the cover

Japanese Anemone,
September Charm P003

Photo by

Michelle Mero Riedel

Getting to the Sale



NOTE: This year, the State Fair is working on a construction project at the corner of Randall and Underwood, and has closed a block of Underwood. Look for signage on the streets of the Fairgrounds to help navigate around this obstruction.

The Plant Sale is held at the Minnesota State Fairgrounds, inside the Grandstand. At left, you can see an overhead map with our recommended entrances into the Fairgrounds.

Driving

- Parking at the Plant Sale is free, and available to everyone in the large parking lot northwest of the Grandstand. This is the lot the State Fair uses as its Transit Hub.
- Highway 280 will be closed during the Plant Sale this year.
- To see recommended driving routes from each entrance, visit FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/driving.

Accessible parking

- This year we have two accessible parking lots: one closer to the Garden Fair, and one closer to the Plant Sale’s actual entrance.
- Visitors who need accessible parking are encouraged to use one or both of these lots. See more information about accessibility on page 5.

Metro Transit

- The Fairgrounds are served by the Route 3 bus on Como Avenue and the A Line rapid transit bus on Snelling Avenue. Additionally, the 121 Campus Connector for the U of M runs on weekdays, and stops close to the Transit Hub parking lot.

- Bus schedules, route planning from where you are, and Next Ride are available here: www.metrotransit.org

Biking and walking

- The best pedestrian and bike gate to use is Gate 9 (also called the Loop Gate) on the south side of the Fairgrounds. It is adjacent to the off-road bike path on Como ave, and next to a Route 3 bus stop for the Fairgrounds.
- There is bike parking at the northwest corner of Dan Patch and Liggett, right around where the food trucks for the Garden Fair are set up.

Metro Mobility

- The Metro Mobility address is 1780 Dan Patch Ave, Falcon Heights.
- This is a new location this year: it is at the point of Dan Patch that curves near the west end of the Grandstand, as close to the sale’s entrance as possible, marked with a on the map.
- For more information about Metro Mobility, see our accessibility section on page 5.

Wristbands

After you arrive at the Garden Fair, head to the Wristband Booth, located at the entrance to the Garden Fair. There you will be given a wristband with a group number for entry into the sale (one per person*).

Wristband distribution starts at:

- Friday:** 6:30 a.m. (sale opens at 9:00)
- Saturday:** 8:00 a.m. (sale opens at 10:00)
- Sunday:** 9:00 a.m. (sale opens at 10:00 — all remaining plants 1/3 off)

Wristbands are needed for entry from the time the sale opens, until when the number of shoppers has lessened.

Each wristband has a number, indicating its admission group. Each group has 100 people in it. The lower your wristband number, the sooner you will enter the sale.

Depending on when you arrive, your wait to get into the sale may vary from a few minutes to a few hours. You can find more information in the estimated wait times table, at right.

While you’re waiting, plan to visit our outdoor Garden Fair, where we host exhibitors selling garden-related products, and a variety of food trucks. You can find a list of exhibitors on page 6, as well as our food options.

If you prefer, you can also leave the Fairgrounds altogether and come back closer to the time when your wristband group will be entering. If you’re leaving and returning, we recommend signing up for our texting system. If you do, you will be notified when your wristband number is coming up. You can sign up for the texts after you receive your wristband or on the day you plan to shop if you just want to know when wristbands are no longer needed. (Note: messaging and data rates may apply.)

In addition to our texting system, we also have a webpage with live updates on wait times and expected entry times. Find out more at FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/wristbands.

You’ll be called to line up with your group at the west end of the Grandstand. When it is your group’s turn to enter, you’ll be welcomed into the sale by volunteers.

If you leave the area and return after your wristband number has been called, you can enter the sale as soon as you arrive.

**Please note: If you have friends arriving later than you or parking the car, they will be given a wristband number at the time of their arrival, not yours. This system makes the waiting process fair for everyone, and we appreciate your cooperation.*

Estimated Wait Times

Depending on when you arrive, you may need to wait to enter the sale after you receive your wristband. Generally, if you want the best selection of plants, plan to arrive earlier in the day, and if you want smaller crowds, come later in the day. Here’s some information about our average wait times:

Friday (sale opens at 9:00 a.m.)

Friday morning is bustling, festive, and full of lots of gardeners excited to get their plants! Be prepared for longer wait times: you can visit with the exhibitors in the Garden Fair, or, if you have a longer wait time, leave and come back when your group number is coming up.

Arrival time	Estimated entry time
6:00 a.m. or earlier	9:00–10:00 a.m.
7:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.	12:30 p.m.
11:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
1:30 p.m.	3:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m. or later	Immediately

Saturday (sale opens at 10:00 a.m.)

Saturday morning is similar to Friday, though not quite as busy. The afternoon is very relaxed.

Arrival time	Estimated entry time
8:00 a.m. or earlier	10:00–10:30 a.m.
9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.	12:00 p.m.
12:00 p.m.	1:30 p.m.
2:00 p.m. or later	Immediately

Sunday (sale opens at 10:00 a.m.)

Sunday can be a wildcard, since it depends on how many plants we have left. It’s a busy day, but wait times are usually not as long, and shopping is faster, too.

Arrival time	Estimated entry time
9:00 a.m. or earlier	10:00–10:15 a.m.
10:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
11:30 a.m. or later	Immediately

Disclaimer: These times are estimates based off of previous years’ data, and are not guarantees of entry times.

Why Are There Wristbands?

Our plant sale is popular. More people want to shop than the Grandstand can safely hold at one time. Using a wristband entry system is one way to minimize crowding.

All shoppers are given a paper wristband, one per person, until the number of people decreases.

With a numbered wristband, you don’t have to stand in line during the busiest times. It’s the fairest way to handle the number of people who want to enter the sale at the same time.

Once the number of people waiting to get in has decreased, we stop handing out wristbands and allow people in as soon as they arrive.

Accessibility Update

We have successfully worked with the State Fair to provide accessible parking closer to the sale's entrance. We want to make the Plant Sale as accessible an experience as possible. Here's what you need to know about where it is and how it will work. We welcome your feedback if you use the new accessible parking area this year.

The big news

There is now accessible parking in two locations:

- The Transit Hub lot, close to the Garden Fair entrance.
- Behind the Grandstand, close to the Plant Sale entrance.

Anyone with accessibility needs is welcome to use one or both of these parking lots, depending on what makes the most sense for you.

For the Garden Fair

Use the Transit Hub parking lot, just like last year. The southeast corner is designated for accessible parking. After you park, volunteers will greet you, give information on how to do the sale, and direct you to the Garden Fair. This parking lot is best-suited for visiting the Garden Fair.

For the Plant Sale

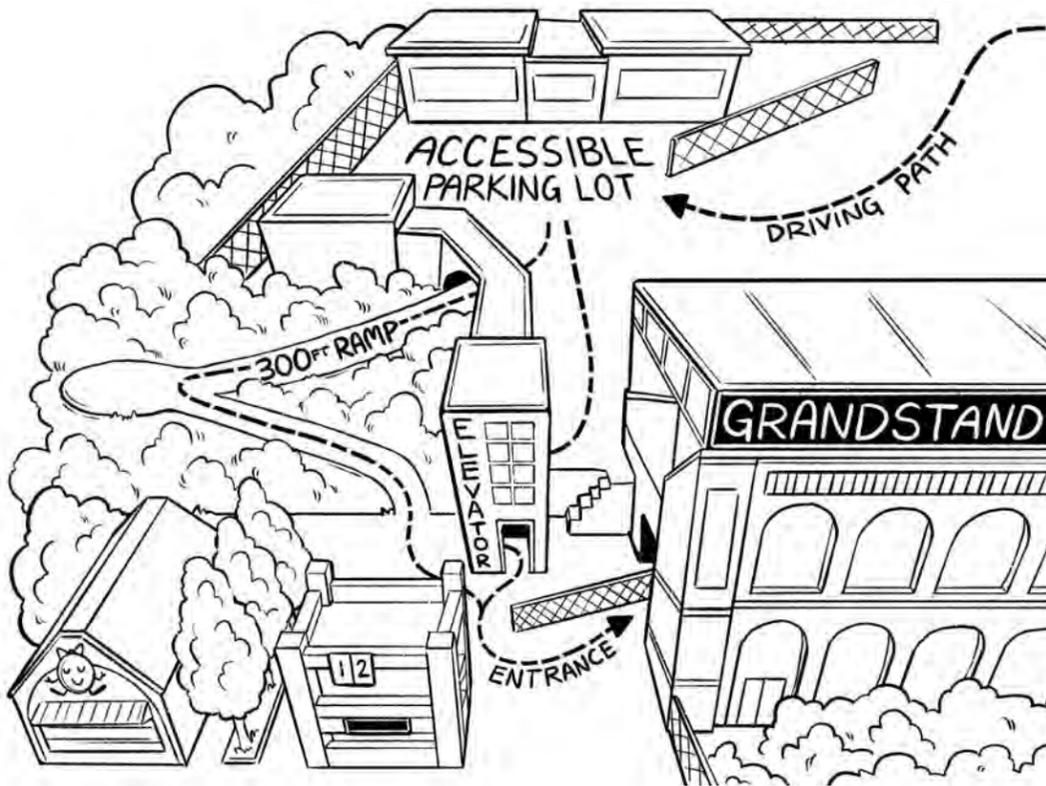
When you're ready to shop at the sale, the best place to park is the new upper-level parking lot behind the Grandstand. If you've ever attended a Grandstand show at the State Fair, this is the area where the stage is set up. After you park, volunteers will greet you, provide wristbands, give information on how to do the sale, and point the way by elevator or ramp to reach the sale.

This area will be staffed before the plant sale opens until after the sale is closed (see hours below). This is also where you will get your wristband to enter the sale.

After you've shopped and exited with your plants, bring them with you back up to the accessible lot. There will be volunteers to help load your plants into your car and return shopping carts.

Accessible Parking Hours: Upper-level Grandstand

Day	Opens	Closes
Friday (sale opens at 9:00 a.m.)	8:30 a.m.	8:30 p.m.
Saturday (sale opens at 10:00 a.m.)	9:30 a.m.	6:15 p.m.
Sunday (sale opens at 10:00 a.m.)	9:30 a.m.	2:00 p.m.



A preview of the path once you exit your vehicle at the new accessible parking area. Note that this parking lot is on the upper level behind the Grandstand. There is an elevator, an ADA-compliant ramp, and stairs down to the sale level.

Questions

Do I need to visit the Garden Fair before going to the accessible sale parking lot?

No. While we recommend visiting the Garden Fair to enjoy the exhibitors and food, you do not need to. If you want to skip the Garden Fair, you can head straight to the new accessible parking lot and receive a wristband there.

Can I still park in the Transit Hub accessible lot to attend the sale?

Of course! If you would prefer to park by the Garden Fair and not move to the lot next to the Grandstand, you are welcome to. Let an accessibility volunteer know you don't plan to move to the other parking lot, and they will get you what you need to enter the sale. Note: The path from the Garden Fair to the Plant Sale includes two street crossings, and is partially on Liggett Street, which has a 4% grade.

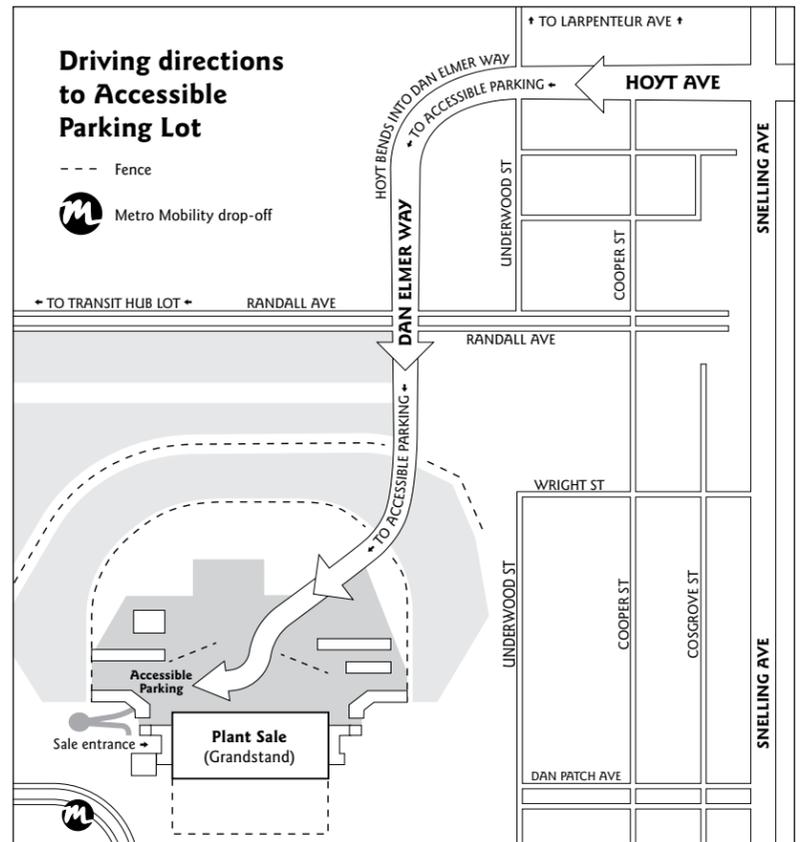
What about service animals?

State Fair policy allows only service dogs on the Fairgrounds. Service dogs are those that have been individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability. Emotional support animals do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

Where are the restrooms?

- At the southwest corner of Liggett and Dan Patch. This restroom has entrances on both ends of the building: The Liggett side has stairs, while the Dan Patch entrance next to the Police Station has a level path leading to the doors.
- Outside the Garden Fair entrance gates, there are portable restrooms with at least one accessible unit.
- In the new accessible parking area, on the upper level of the Grandstand
- Inside the plant sale, located at both back corners of the Grandstand.

All accessible restrooms and stalls are marked with the accessibility icon.



The best entrance to use to reach the accessible parking lot behind the Grandstand is the Hoyt entrance, off of Snelling Ave. By taking this entrance, drivers will continue straight into the accessible lot. Be advised that the parking lot we're using goes down a dirt road to reach the back of the Grandstand. It will be marked well with signs, though—don't worry! Visit FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/accessibility for more info on getting to this lot.

If you have any accessibility questions or concerns not covered here, please call us at **651-621-8930 (711 relay service)** or email info@FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com.

Other Accessibility Info

Crowds

This is a very busy event. While we limit the number of people who enter the sale at once to maintain safety within the Grandstand, there are still large, loud crowds. If crowds are not your thing, we recommend attending the sale later in the day: Friday after 4:00 p.m., or Saturday after 2:00 p.m.

Announcements

In addition to the public address system we use to announce wristband numbers, there is also a large board displaying the current wristband number near the sale's entrance. In the Garden Fair, volunteers walk around displaying the current number.

Seating

The event covers a very large space, with over 2.5 acres of plants alone. We distribute benches throughout the Garden Fair and sale as best we can, but if you need to sit down frequently, we recommend bringing a portable stool or seat walker.

Terrain

Most of the sale is on even ground, but parts of the Shrubs & Trees and Perennials sections are on raised concrete and grass areas, and are not accessible by all mobility devices, particularly wheelchairs. If you need assistance getting plants in these sections, visit the Info Desk tent between the two sections, or find a volunteer with a bright yellow "Ask Me" vest.



Our Metro Mobility drop-off point has moved:

The new Metro Mobility drop-off address is 1780 Dan Patch Avenue.

Customers using Metro Mobility will now be dropped off closer to the sale entrance, where Dan Patch bends.

When you get off the bus, look for the bench marked with "Metro Mobility." There will be instructions there about how to get into the sale. This is also the spot where you will be picked up when you leave the sale.

Garden Fair

Located in the circular plaza northwest of the Grandstand, where the Wristband Booth is

(See map, page 1)

EXHIBITOR HOURS

Friday 7:00 a.m.–6:30 p.m.

Saturday 8:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Some exhibitors may be open shorter or longer hours.

Some may not be open on Sunday.



Cowsmo

Fifth-generation dairy farmers from near Cochrane, Wis. We make and sell the finest cow manure compost, organic compost and potting soils throughout

the Midwest. Check our website for local businesses in the Twin Cities and suburbs where the compost is also sold. CowsmoCompost.com

Edible Landscapes MN **NEW**

Edible Landscapes MN designs and installs food-producing landscapes helping our clients renew the earth, enjoy beautiful harvests, reduce lawn maintenance, foster biodiversity, and build community through shared abundance. EdibleLandscapesMN.com



Ewe & Me Wool Company

Made by two shepherds in Eau Claire, Wis., Woolly Belly Pellets are a natural fertilizer. They hold moisture, require less frequent watering, and are a sustainable replacement for peat moss. Also available: Sheepy Shreds wool mulch to hold water, stop weeds, and regulate soil temperature. www.woollybellypellets.net



EZSwap Pots

A brother duo from Wisconsin makes fabric liners as an alternative to coco liners for your hanging planters. We also make unique fabric transplantable pots that truly make transplanting easy. ezswappots.com or Facebook @ezswappots



Garden Creations by Pam

Handmade windchimes and suncatchers made from Lake Superior driftwood, cowbells from India, homemade hooks, resin figures, wooden beads, glass beads and crystal prisms. www.facebook.com/pam.loving.what.I.do



Friends School of Minnesota

Stop by to make a seed bomb and take it home to spread more Minnesota native plants. Learn more on page 7.



HF Woodworking, Inc. **NEW**

Local family woodworking business, creating wall art with many themes including flowers, plants, animals. We also offer many other items and same-day personalization. HFWoodworking.com



Kelsey Larson's Creations **NEW**

Handmade botanical-inspired jewelry and garden décor including real pressed-flower resin necklaces, floral earrings, and whimsical sun-catchers. Creations perfect for plant-lovers and garden enthusiasts. Each item is thoughtfully crafted to celebrate nature's beauty.



KM Leaves

Each colorful leaf cast is a unique piece of art for home or garden. We start by picking an individual leaf, which is cast and then hand painted using outdoor acrylic paints. Display indoors or outdoors! All leaves are hand-made in Roseville, Minn. kmleaves.com

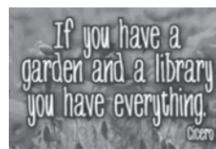


Minnesota State Horticultural Society (MSHS)

Minnesota State Horticultural Society Frustrated by the mountain of inaccurate or irrelevant growing info for northern gardeners? We get it—we live and garden in a short season, too. For 160 years, MSHS has been supporting northern gardeners of all ages and skill levels with *Northern Gardener* magazine, classes, an online Resource Hub, blog, and bimonthly enews. Find growing tips and inspiration for this area, so you can spend less time digging for info and more time enjoying your garden. Members save \$5 on a purchase of \$50 or more at the Friends School Plant Sale, among other discounts. Not a member? Join our growing northern gardener community today! northerngardener.org/membership/become-a-member

Northern Sun

Products for progressives since 1979: social justice, environmental, and humorous messages printed on gardening and environmentally themed T-shirts, magnets, canvas bags, stickers, buttons, and more. Located at 2916 East Lake Street, Minneapolis. northernsun.com



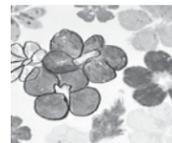
Payslee Jean Designs **NEW**

Handmade galvanized tin and wood signs. The galvanized tin is from old barns with a vintage look. Porch leaners and everyday signs. Email: Paysleejeandesigns@gmail.com



Petal Arts

Gather your friends and explore the art of flower pounding—a creative way to transfer natural dyes from fresh flowers and plants onto fabric or paper using a hammer. Stop by for a live demonstration and book a garden party of your own. Flower Pounding Kits are available for purchase—perfect for gifting! petalarts.carrd.co Email: Winnabernard22@gmail.com



Ramsey County Master Gardeners

Selling Atlas nitrile garden gloves and offering plant and garden information from experts.



River Bend Gardens

Items to beautify your garden: amethyst garden rocks from large (for outdoor gardens) to small (for flower pots and fairy gardens); “imagination” flower pots made from antique and collectible treasures; garden sculptures and miscellaneous garden items.



Roots, Shoots & Leaves

A mobile houseplant shop offering a variety of live houseplants and accessories to make the hobby of houseplant gardening successful and fun. For the new hobbyist and the experienced plant parent. Come visit to see what's inside! rsleaves.com



Silver Stamp Company

Hand-stamped garden stakes and plant-themed keychains and bookmarks. Every letter and design is individually and carefully hand-stamped in aluminum. etsy.com/shop/silverstampco



StoneCrete

In its 16th year providing exquisite and decorative garden stones to customers. Hand-cast individually, these garden stones are rated for 4,000 psi and are made to withstand all weather conditions, both in summer and in winter. stonecreteonline.com



Swaby Creations **NEW**

Beautiful and practical paint-poured terracotta flower pots and paint-poured glass vases. Great for personal use and gifts for all occasions.

facebook.com/SwabyCreation



Two Mikes

Green Fin Plant Care is a 100%-natural fertilizer produced responsibly from invasive carp species that are damaging Minnesota waterways. Made in the Twin Cities area, Green Fin Plant Care is great for home, garden, or field use. It contains the rich nutrients your plants and crops crave. twomikes.net

More exhibitors to be added.

Please check our website for updates:

www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/gardenfair

GARDEN FAIR FOOD

Food sellers keep the standard Garden Fair hours unless noted.

Edina Edina Coffee Roasters

COFFEE ROASTERS Locally roasted brewed coffee and specialty coffee drinks. Plus locally roasted whole beans. edinacoffeeroasters.com



Gerhard's

Bratwurst, German potato salad, mac and cheese, potato chips, and water. gerhardsbrats.com



Pow Wow Grounds

Traditional fry bread with multiple options, including wojapi (Dakota fruit pudding) or meat and vegetarian taco fillings.

Chicken wild rice and Three Sisters soups (vegan, gluten-free). powwowgrounds.com



Taqueria el Patron

Tortas and a wide selection of customizable tacos, quesadillas, and fajita burritos, plus fresh

guacamole, drinks, and more. taqueriaelpatronmn.com



Tot Boss

Serving up tasty tater tot concoctions, poutine tots, loaded tots, tater tot nachos, pizza tots and more, including our NEW Dill pickle tots! totboss.com



In cooperation with the sale's Zero Waste team, all our food vendor's containers in the Garden Fair are compostable or recyclable. Thank you to our food vendors for helping our event send as little to the landfill as possible!

How to Read the Catalog

Every plant we sell has an individual listing with its name, description, price, and pot size. We also have all our plants listed online at [FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/plants](https://www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/plants), where you can search by category, traits, colors, height, and what's new this year. You can also make a printable shopping list to bring with you to the sale.

At right is a sample catalog listing, and below is an explanation of each part of this entry.

Symbol Key

- Full sun
- ◐ Part sun/part shade
- Shade
- 🐝 Attractive to bees
- 🦉 Audubon-endorsed
- 🦋 Butterfly-friendly
- 🐦 Hummingbird-friendly
- 🌿 Attractive foliage
- 🍷 Culinary
- 🌸 Edible flowers
- 🌱 Ground cover
- 🏠 Houseplant
- 🍵 Medicinal
- 🇺🇸 Minnesota native
- 🪨 Rock garden
- ❄️ Cold-sensitive: keep above 40°F
- ☹️ Toxic to humans
- 🚚 Saturday restock

1. Common name

Plants are organized alphabetically within category by their common name: the name you probably know the plant by.

2. Botanical name

Every plant has a two-part (binomial) Latin name, consisting of genus and species. We always list genus. Sometimes individual varieties within the same common name will have different species names, and sometimes plants may be hybridized with multiple species, or have unknown species origin. An × in a name indicates it is a cross of two genera or species.

3. Common description

All information in this description will be accurate for all varieties we have with that common name, including the symbols.

4. Symbols

At the end of the description, you will find symbols giving you information on sunlight requirements, pollinators they attract, uses for the plant, if they are edible or poisonous, and other helpful info. Symbols may also be on a single variety if it only applies to that specific plant. See the key at left for a full list.

5. Pot size and price

This information may be after a single variety or before multiple varieties with the same pot size and price.

6. Catalog number

With over 2,000 varieties of plants, this number is the key to quickly finding what you are looking for at the sale! Each category has its own set of numbers, starting with a unique letter. For example, Herbs is "H".

Truffula Tree¹ *Geisel seussium*²

Tall, spindly trees with soft, candyfloss-like leaves. Foliage can be spun into a highly versatile fiber, often used to make thneed. Nesting tree for Swomee-Swans. Highly threatened by the textile industry, so harvest sustainably. These varieties have been bred for hardiness in northern climates, but will still do better in a protected area.³

○ 🦋 🐝 🦉 🌿⁴

\$10.00—1 gal. pot:⁵

S234⁶ **Pink Candy**⁷—Bright pink, fluffy leaves.

Recent hybrid developed by the University of Who-ville.⁸ 20'h⁹

S235 **Wild Yellow** **NEW**¹⁰ 🚚¹¹—Wispy yellow puffs of leaves. Wild species brought back from the edge of extinction by a single seed. 30'h 🌿

7. Variety name

This is the name of the specific plant you are buying. This could be the name of the cultivar, a brand name, the color of the plant, or the name of that individual species. Sometimes you will also find variety names that are the same as the common name—this happens often in the Native Perennials section, where we sell many wild species.

8. Variety description

Info after a variety is specific to that individual plant: this might include notes about color, flavor, and disease resistance. There also may be symbols specific to that variety.

9. Height

This is the expected height (and width) the plant will reach. Shrubs, trees, and climbers are measured in feet, everything else is measured in inches.

10. Saturday truck

We restock a large number of our plants on Saturday morning. These plants are marked with a 🚚.

11. New/Renew

Varieties that we have never sold have a symbol that says **NEW**. Plants we have not sold for at least 5 years are marked with **RENEW**.

What we don't say

There are a few pieces of information that we do *not* include in our plant listings:

Size

Throughout the catalog, you can assume the plants are roughly the **same width as the height** shown unless noted otherwise.

Flowers and leaves

You can assume **leaves are green and flowers are single and scentless** unless noted otherwise.

Hardiness

We don't list USDA hardiness zones because the listed ranges on individual varieties may not always accurately reflect their hardiness here. Read the full explanation at [FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/zones](https://www.FriendsSchoolPlantSale.com/zones).

However, if the catalog says a perennial "needs winter protection" or "winter mulch recommended," that means it's **less likely to be hardy here**, though we know gardeners who grow it successfully. If the text says "very hardy," that means the plant is known to be hardy north of the Twin Cities. If a plant has five stars ★★★★★ it is highly rated for success in the book *Growing Perennials in Cold Climates*.



If you have questions about a particular plant, stop by the Info Desk, located outside between Perennials and Shrubs & Trees, under the big ramp in front of the Grandstand.

Seeding Our Future

Helping pollinators, getting our hands dirty, and having a great time

Students at Friends School of Minnesota study pollinators, their importance in ecosystems, and the many ways pollinators are threatened. They also learn about how we can all help pollinators.

Our students have taken action to protect pollinators by advocating for the elimination of neonicotinoid pesticides and working with the National Park Service to create and throw "seed bombs" to restore native habitat that is beneficial for pollinators (pictured to the right).

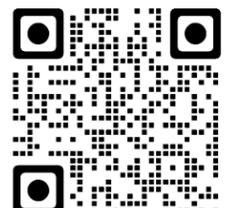
Over the past few years, we have hosted seed bomb booths at local festivals and at the plant sale.

Creating seed bombs is mission-aligned for our school and allows us to take a topic we study at school and share it with the broader community. The more we can help restore native habitat the better.



Friends School of Minnesota students throwing seed bombs at Coldwater Springs as part of a project with the National Park Service.

Friends School
OF MINNESOTA



Make a seed bomb with us at the Friends School Plant Sale!

Find us in the Garden Fair at select times on Friday and Saturday to get your hands dirty and make a seed bomb. You can take the seed bomb with you and throw it where you would like to encourage native plants to grow. A schedule will be posted at the Friends School table.

This is free and all ages are welcome—from 2 to 102!

The seed mix we use: "Insectopia" comes from Prairie Moon Nursery based in Winona, Minnesota.

Herbs

Plant widths are similar to their heights unless noted otherwise.

H139 **Tarragon, French** 🌿

Artemisia dracunculus

Strong licorice taste. Great for flavored vinegar or used fresh with chicken, carrots, and omelettes. Perennial, but can be potted in late fall for winter window sill use. 36”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$4.00—3.5” pot

H140 **Tarragon, Mexican** *Tagetes lucida* 🌿

With the sweetness of licorice, this handsome tender perennial is like a milder French tarragon. Treat as an annual. It won’t self-seed in Minnesota. 36”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$4.00—3.5” pot

See also MARIGOLD, page 26



Thyme

Thyme *Thymus*

Easy-to-grow, bushy herb with small leaves. Good in a summer pot. Ornamental as well as culinary and makes a soothing tea. Perennial, but not all varieties are reliably hardy here. ○☞☞☞☞☞☞

\$4.00—3.5” pot:

H141 **English** *T. vulgaris* 🌿—Most reliably cold-hardy thyme. Robust flavor. 10”h **ORGANIC**

H142 **French** *T. vulgaris* 🌿—Smaller leaves than English thyme, and a sweeter flavor. Often preferred by chefs. 10”h

H143 **Lemon** *T. citriodorus* 🌿—Lemon-scented. 12”h

H144 **Lime** *T. citriodorus* 🌿—Pink flowers, citrus-scented. 6–12”h

H145 **Pizza** *T. nummularius* **NEW** 🌿—Oregano-and thyme-scented leaves and pinkish purple flowers. Perfect for Italian dishes. Also called Italian thyme. Unsure of hardiness, let us know if yours comes back. 6–12”h by 9–12”w **ORGANIC**

H146 **Rose** 🌿—The aroma is a combination of old-fashioned rose and spicy thyme. 6–12”h ☞

See more THYME, pages 34 and 44

H147 **Tong Ho** **NEW** 🌿

Glebionis coronaria Oasis

Attractive daisies with white to yellow petals and yellow centers. Delicious, aromatic, and slightly bitter, the leaves are great for salads, stir fries, hot pot, and soups. This small-leafed variety is vigorous and productive. Leaves are best used young, cut back when the plant is 4–12” tall for a second crop. Native to Europe, it has been cultivated and naturalized in Asia. Annual. 36”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$4.00—3.5” pot

H148 **Vanilla Grass** *Anthoxanthum odoratum*

Great for potpourri. A European bunchgrass that will establish readily in areas of poor fertility. The scent of this grass made it popular as bedding straw. Widely naturalized in North America. Perennial and spreading. 12–24”h ○ \$3.00—2.5” pot

H149 **Vietnamese Balm** *Elsholtzia ciliata* 🌿

In Vietnamese cuisine, this lemony herb is called “rau kinh gioi” and is among the leafy herbs served with soups and grilled meats. Pale purple flowers bloom in flat spikes in fall. Spreads by both seed and rhizomes. Treat as an annual. 24”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$4.00—3.5” pot

H150 **Vietnamese Coriander** 🌿

Persicaria odorata Rau Ram

The leaf is dark green with a maroon “V” and has a strong cilantro-like fragrance and a slightly peppery taste. It’s eaten fresh in Vietnamese cuisine for salads and raw summer rolls, as well as in some soups and stews. Moist soil. Tender perennial; won’t go to seed quickly like cilantro. 24–36”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$4.00—3.5” pot

H151 **Weld** *Reseda luteola*

Biennial plant forms a low rosette of leaves the first year and a tall stalk with fragrant yellow-green flowers in June the second year. Traditional European source of colorfast bright yellow dyes. Harvest each entire stalk in full bloom when the pigment is most concentrated, and to prevent reseeding. Often planted around outhouses where its powerfully sweet aroma masked other odors. Combine with woad or indigo for green dye or madder to producer orange. 48–60”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$6.00—6 plants in a pack

H152 **Woad** *Isatis tinctoria* 🌿

Traditional and only source of lightfast blue dye in Europe before indigo began to be imported. Harvest dye-producing leaves during the plant’s first season when it forms a leafy rosette close to the ground. Will bolt the second year sending up a spike of tiny yellow flowers. Biennial. Best not to let it bloom. The 36–60” taproot makes the plant hard to eradicate once established. Considered a noxious weed in several western states. Entire websites are devoted to its control and destruction! Also known as asp of Jerusalem. 12”h ○☞☞☞☞ \$6.00—6 plants in a pack



Weld



Woad



Get a text message

when your wristband # is called, or when wristbands are no longer required each day. See the details on page 4.

Bring a box, win a prize!

For every box, crate, bin, and/or cart you bring to the sale to carry your plants, you receive one ticket to our raffle!

Visit the Zero Waste Tent in the Garden Fair to enter.

See page 34 for more information about how to enter, and prize information.



Organic  **Certified-Organic Herbs at the Sale**

Every one of the plants in the Herbs section is grown without synthetic pesticides or herbicides, and from greenhouses operated with sustainable practices. We also carry a more limited line of certified-organic herbs, marked with our organic icon. Some are seeds. At customer request, here’s a summary of those:

Basil, Italian

H003 Amethyst Improved

H004 Aroma

H006 Gustoso

Basil, Thai

H014 Thai Sweet, plant

H015 Thai Sweet, seeds

Cilantro

H035 Santo

Dill

H039 Greensleeves

H041 Goldkroner

Ginger

H051 Bird **NEW**

Lavender, English

H058 Arctic Snow

Lavender, Other

H071 Bridget Chloe

H072 Fernleaf

Oregano

H104 Greek

Parsley, Curly

H110 Single pot

Parsley, Italian

H112 Single pot

Rosemary

H116 Abraxas **NEW**

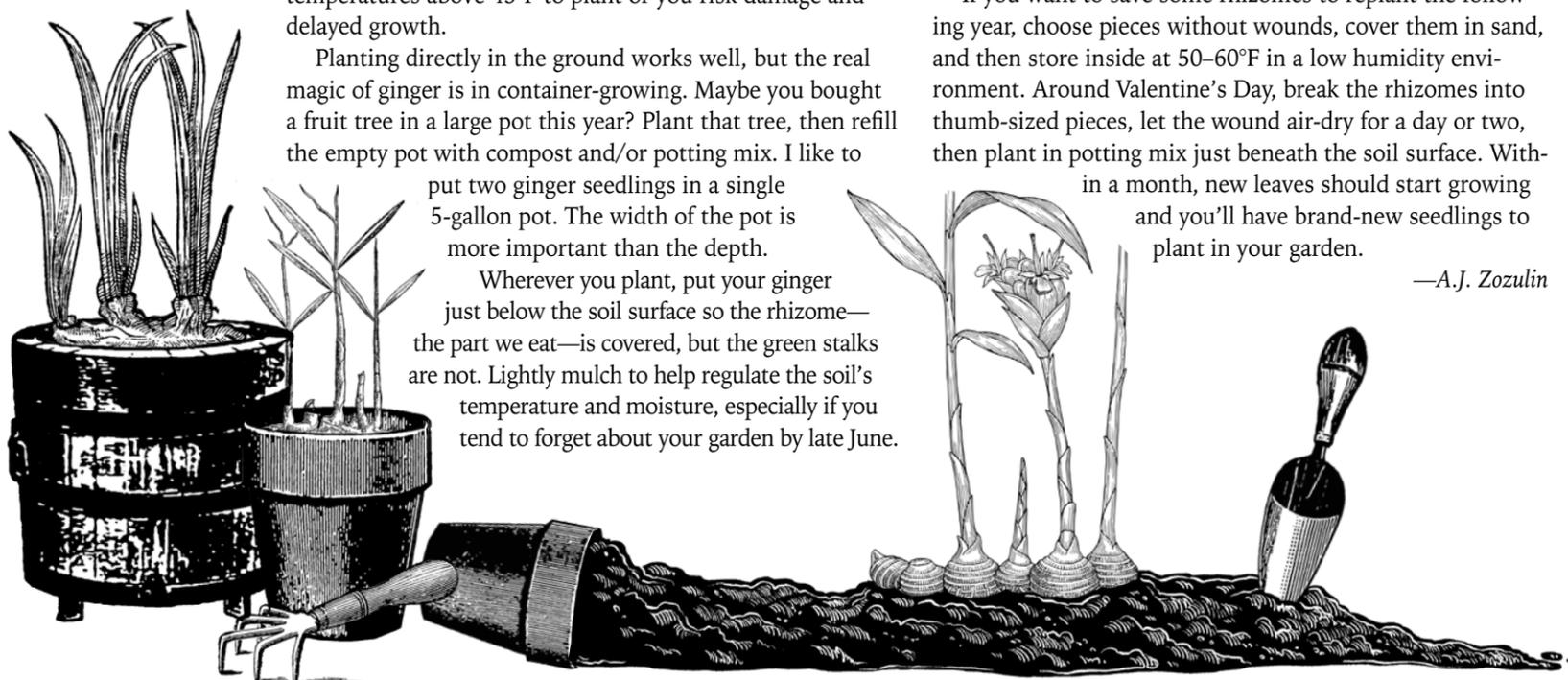
H121 Lockwood de Forest **NEW**

Thyme

H141 English

H145 Pizza **NEW**

See also **ORGANIC VEGETABLES**, page 20



Growing Ginger in the North

Before we talk about how, I want to tell you *why* you should grow ginger: Obviously, it’s delicious, but it also does well in a variety of garden types, can survive neglect, produces a lot from a single plant, can be expensive at the grocery store, is more pungent fresh, can be stored in the freezer for an extended period, and can be saved from year to year to grow even more ginger! Hopefully that’s enough to convince you of the why, so let’s get to the how.

Ginger is tropical and grows wild in forest understories. While it does want hot, sunny weather, dappled shade is closer to its natural environment. If you’re on top of watering, full sun is great and will yield a little more at the end of the season, but if you like to plant it and forget it, try a part-shade area to give your ginger some protection from the harshest summer days. Either way, wait for night time temperatures above 45°F to plant or you risk damage and delayed growth.

Planting directly in the ground works well, but the real magic of ginger is in container-growing. Maybe you bought a fruit tree in a large pot this year? Plant that tree, then refill the empty pot with compost and/or potting mix. I like to put two ginger seedlings in a single 5-gallon pot. The width of the pot is more important than the depth.

Wherever you plant, put your ginger just below the soil surface so the rhizome—the part we eat—is covered, but the green stalks are not. Lightly mulch to help regulate the soil’s temperature and moisture, especially if you tend to forget about your garden by late June.

Now for the less straightforward part, watering. Have no fear, ginger is resilient! Last summer I grew ginger in pots on my alley parking pad. I watered them about half a dozen times between May and October and still harvested several pounds. That’s all to say, you can neglect this plant, especially if they are in part shade. If you’re more attentive or use irrigation, water just enough to keep the soil damp but not soaked. It’s worse to over-water because that can lead to root rot.

Throughout the season, the rhizome will spread horizontally underground, periodically sending up new green stalks. To give your ginger as much time to grow as possible, dig it up just before the first fall frost—no later or you risk ruining your hard-earned harvest! Cut off the leaves, wash the roots, and use within a week or freeze in large chunks for up to two years.

If you want to save some rhizomes to replant the following year, choose pieces without wounds, cover them in sand, and then store inside at 50–60°F in a low humidity environment. Around Valentine’s Day, break the rhizomes into thumb-sized pieces, let the wound air-dry for a day or two, then plant in potting mix just beneath the soil surface. Within a month, new leaves should start growing and you’ll have brand-new seedlings to plant in your garden.

—A.J. Zozulin

We accept checks, cash, Amex, Visa,
MasterCard, Discover, and Apple Pay

Vegetables

Key

- Full sun
- ◐ Part sun/part shade
- Shade
- 🐝 Attractive to bees
- 🐦 Audubon-endorsed
- 🦋 Butterfly-friendly
- 🐦 Hummingbird-friendly
- 🌿 Attractive foliage
- 🍴 Culinary
- 🌸 Edible flowers
- 🌱 Ground cover
- 🏠 Houseplant
- 🩹 Medicinal
- 📄 Minnesota native
- 🪨 Rock garden
- ❄️ Cold-sensitive: keep above 40°F
- ☹️ Toxic to humans
- 🛒 Saturday restock



Cucumber vine



Eggplant

Cucumber *Cucumis sativus*

Crisp and refreshing, perfect for fresh eating or pickling. Get longer, straighter fruit by using a trellis or cage. Climbs by tendrils. 🌿

\$3.00—seed packets:

V074 **Green Finger**—60 days. Thin-skinned, crisp 6–8" cucumber. Durable slicer. Notable disease resistance to powdery mildew, papaya ring spot virus, watermelon mosaic virus, zucchini yellow mosaic virus, plus high tolerance to angular leaf spot. **ORGANIC**

V075 **Marketmore 76**—65–70 days. Vigorous and productive. Its thicker skin protects against bruising. Slender 8–9" fruits are great slicers. Developed in 1976 by Dr. Henry Munger at Cornell University. Grows especially well in hot humid climates. Open-pollinated and resistant to cucumber mosaic virus, scab, and powdery mildew. **ORGANIC**

V076 **National Pickling**—52 days. Developed by the National Pickle Packers association, this is the cuke that pickle makers asked for. Very productive plants with 5" fruits. Open-pollinated. **ORGANIC**

V077 **Shintokiwa**—60 days. Fruits are 9–12" with exceptional flavor and crunch. Small seed cavity makes these excellent even when picked at a larger size. Open-pollinated. **ORGANIC**

V078 **Suyo Long**—65 days. Ribbed dark green heirloom, up to 18" long. Mild and sweet. **ORGANIC**

V079 **Tasty Green** **NEW**—60 days. Early-maturing, high-yield hybrid best harvested at 9" when skin is dark green with shallow ridges. Resistant to powdery mildew.

\$4.00—seed packets:

V080 **Bushy**—45–50 days. Russian variety produces many 4–5" fruits on 5' vines. Crispy cukes are suitable for pickling and fresh eating. Tolerates cool nights. Excellent for summer containers and small spaces. **ORGANIC**

V081 Cucumber, Armenian

Cucumis melo var. *flexuosus*

65 days. Slender fruits that look and taste like cucumbers. Slicing releases a scent revealing its true identity as a closely related species of melon. Harvest the thin-skinned fruits at 12–16", when they are most flavorful. Heat-loving 15th-century heirloom from Western Asia. Climbs by tendrils. 🌿 \$2.69—seed packets

V082 Cuke-nuts

Melothria scabra a.k.a. Mexican Sour Gherkins

60–70 days. Lemony, crisp 1–2" cukes look just like miniature watermelons. Best eaten raw and whole, but also good for pickling. A delicate but productive vine that clambers through the garden or on a shrub. Prefers fertile, well-drained soil. Climbs by tendrils. Also known as cucamelon, pepquino, and mouse melons. 48–72"h 🌿 \$3.00—3.5" pot

V083 Edamame *Glycine max* Chiba Green

75–80 days. Excellent nutty-flavored soybean. What a succulent treat! Early-maturing with large beans. Vigorous bushes. Open-pollinated. Meant to be eaten as a green vegetable. **ORGANIC** \$3.00—seed packets

Eggplant *Solanum melongena*

Roast, fry, stew, or bake in a range of cuisines. 🌿

\$3.00—3.5" pot:

V084 **Classic**—70 days. Large dark purple fruits.

V085 **Diamond**—70 days. Generous clusters of 4–8" dark purple fruits with a pale green interior that is creamy and not bitter. Discovered in Ukraine in 1993 and well-suited to our short growing season. Open-pollinated. 24"h

V086 **Fairy Tale**—65 days. Slender 4" light purple fruits streaked with white. Sweet, nearly seedless fruits grow in small clusters of two to four. Bred for container growing. 2005 All American Selection winner. 18–24"h

Eggplant continued

\$3.00—3.5" pot (continued):

V087 **Fengyuan Purple**—65 days. Taiwanese heirloom over 12" in length. Deep purple skin is so thin it requires no peeling. Creamy interior lacks the bitterness of other eggplants. Cooking brings out its rich, sweet, and complex flavor.

V088 **Listada de Gandia**—80–90 days. Elongated oval 8" fruits are white with lavender striping. "Listada" means "striped" in Spanish. Heirloom with heavy yields.

V089 **Patio Baby**—45–52 days. A perfect miniature plant with small leaves and egg-sized fruits. Spineless for pain-free and child-friendly harvesting. Continuous clusters of purplish black fruits. Ideal for small gardens and pots. 2014 AAS Regional winner. Hybrid. 18–24"h

V090 **Shikou**—70–80 days. "Shikou" means "supreme" in Japanese; this first hybrid Asian-type eggplant has few seeds, thin tender skin, and a very white interior. Easy to cook, with no peeling or salting required. Plants are so productive they may need staking to support the bounty of slender 6–8" deep purple fruits. 18–24"h

\$3.50—3.5" pot:

V091 **Little Fingers**—68 days. Slim dark purple eggplants grow in clusters of three or more. They can be harvested when no longer than your little finger. However, you can also let them grow longer at no sacrifice to their mild, sweet taste. Delicious stir-fried, grilled, or even pickled. **ORGANIC**

V092 **Swallow**—51 days. The earliest Japanese-type eggplant with long, dark, narrow fruits. Very prolific.

V093 **Thai, Kermit**—60 days. Compact plant produces 2" round green fruit with white stripes.

V094 Eggplant, Red

Solanum aethiopicum Turkish

80 days. Heirloom with round 3" fruits that are always photographed as deep orange but are actually best eaten when they begin to turn from green to cream. Very sweet and flavorful. If left to ripen fully, they turn deep red-orange with dark stripes and are excellent for stuffing. Small enough to grow in containers. Also known as Turkish orange, scarlet, or Ethiopian eggplant. 🌿 \$3.00—3.5" pot

V095 Goldenberry *Physalis peruviana*

70–80 days. Small yellow bell flowers with dark spots. After the flower falls, a protective, papery husk forms around the glossy fruit. Pick when the husks turn brown around fragrant, half-inch yellowish orange fruit. Eat only ripe fruits. Mildly tangy and sweet taste is compared to pineapple, strawberry, and grape. Good raw or dried in salads, or cooked into desserts, jams, and chutneys. Perennial in the tropics, the plants are frost tender. Can be grown in pots and adapt well to greenhouse culture. Self-fruitful. 24–48"h by 12–48"w 🌿 \$4.00—4" pot

V096 Gourd, Bottle

Lagenaria siceraria Long Calabash

60–75 days fresh, 100 days dry. Slender 36" or longer light green fruits, best trellised and allowed to climb. Vigorous, but we're not sure how tall it gets—quite tall! Tender, delicious steamed, sautéed, or baked. Also called suzza melon, zucca, Tasmanian bean, Guinea bean. \$4.00—4" pot

Ground Cherry *Physalis pruinosa*

This cousin of the tomato and tomatillo has fruits encapsulated in papery husks. 🌿

\$3.00—3.5" pot:

V097 **Cossack Pineapple**—60 days. Bite-sized yellow fruits that taste like pineapple with hints of blackberry and tomato. Sweetest when the husks turn brown. Short, spreading plants suppress weeds. Heirloom. 12–18"h by 24"w

V098 **Loewen Family Heirloom**—70–80 days. Yellow penny-sized fruit. 19th century Dutch Mennonites brought seeds via Russia, Siberia, and Canada to Minnesota. Easy and prolific.

\$4.00—4" pot:

V099 **Drott's Yellow**—55 days. Super sweet half-inch fruits on sprawling, productive plants. **ORGANIC**

V100 Huckleberry, Garden

Solanum nigrum Chichiquelite

60 days. White flowers. Berries turn dark blue and lose their sheen when ready to harvest, which can take up to two weeks after first changing color. Unripe berries can cause stomach discomfort. Flavor varies among plants, but is generally like a sweet tomato. Fruits are most often cooked and sweetened to use in jams, jellies, and pies where they take on more of a blueberry flavor. 36–48"h 🌿 \$3.00—3.5" pot

What's a Garden Huckleberry?

If you haven't read the description in this catalog (right above this article), do that now, I'll wait... Done? Great! Now you know a little bit about Garden Huckleberry, but there is so much more.

This plant is not a true huckleberry. Unlike real huckleberries, which are related to blueberries, garden huckleberry is a close relative of several common garden plants: tomatoes, peppers, and potatoes. That makes it part of the Nightshade plant family, or Solanaceae. It's also a part of a group of plants commonly called black nightshades.

Black nightshades are one of the most widely eaten plants in the world, both the berries and cooked stems and leaves. They go by a lot of different names, including Garden Huckleberry, Njama Njama, Managu, and Wonderberry, a plant we sold last year.

Black nightshade can refer to any of a dozen or more species distributed across every continent (except Antarctica) that look incredibly similar. When confronted with a type of black nightshade, even a trained botanist can struggle to identify the exact species.

With all this talk of nightshades, you might be wondering how deadly nightshade (*Atropa belladonna*) fits into the picture. This association is not entirely unwarranted: deadly nightshade is also in the Solanaceae family, but it is easily distinguished from black nightshade by its flower color and shape. Most importantly, black nightshade is not deadly. Despite this, in 17th century Europe, reports of deadly nightshade poisoning were falsely attributed to black nightshade due to both plants being referred to as simply "nightshade." Because of this history, black nightshade is commonly mislabeled as deadly poison in the U.S. to this day (it

is even listed on the Poison Control website).

Black nightshades, like all species in the genus *Solanum*, do contain some poisonous chemicals called glycoalkaloids, of which the most recognizable is solanine. However, it is important to remember that the dose makes the poison, and domesticated vegetables have a miniscule dose, if any, of these glycoalkaloids in them. As for black nightshades, information about their solanine levels is hard to find since they aren't a commercial crop in the U.S. One study conducted in Taiwan determined that the unripe fruit of a local black nightshade contained the highest concentration of solanine. Not enough to poison yourself (unless you want to eat an unpleasant amount of bitter, hard berries), but enough for a stomachache. Therefore, even among the enjoyers of this delicious food, we recommend not eating green berries (just like you shouldn't eat green potatoes).

Don't let all this talk of poison deter you; many edible plants have toxic parts, need to be prepared in specific ways, or affect the body negatively if you consume too much. Follow in the footsteps of billions of people throughout time and around the world who have enjoyed eating black nightshades and give Garden Huckleberry a try.



—A.J. Zozulin



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If you want to learn more about black nightshade, this article from the Forager Chef is a good place to start: foragerchef.com/black-nightshade-berries