

# Peonies VII

**Humankind has not woven  
the web of life. We are but  
one thread within it.**

**Whatever we do to the  
web, we do to ourselves.**

**All things are bound  
together. All things  
connect.**

**~Chief Seattle, 1855**

**April is the time for:**



**Continue to plant bare-root trees, shrubs & roses.**

**After all danger of frost,  
plant summer bulbs  
including glads, cannas  
and tuberous begonias!**

**To see a world in a grain of  
sand, And a heaven in a wild  
flower, Hold infinity in the palm  
of your hand, And eternity in  
an hour.**

-- William Blake

## Environmental Issue– Doing our Part

### How we are lowering the carbon impact of our landscaping:

We started a pilot program two years ago to replace the gas engines on our mowers with propane. It was very successful and we have now converted 90% of our entire fleet of mowers to propane. An analysis by M. A. DeLucchi for Argonne National Laboratory concluded that the LPG fuel cycle produces the least amount of greenhouse gases of all the fossil fuel cycles, including that of diesel fuel. The study concluded that “Liquefied petroleum gas, consisting of 95% propane and 5% butane, offers a 20-25% reduction in emissions of greenhouse gas.

**Low reactivity.** Propane exhaust creates 60-70 percent less smog than the hydrocarbons in gasoline exhaust, according to studies by Southwest Research Institute.

**Low air toxics.** Propane cuts emissions of toxins and carcinogens like benzene and toluene by up to 96 percent, compared to gasoline, according to studies by Southwest Research Institute.

**Ground and surface-water safe.** Propane is nontoxic; spills vaporize rather than soaking into soil or water.



To complete our transition to sustainable we standardized on Stihl – cordless, battery-powered outdoor power hedgers, line Trimmers and blowers. The result is a new breed of environmentally responsible products, eliminating both noise and exhaust emissions. Using the newest technologies with re-chargeable and fully recyclable, lithium-ion batteries, we can continue to provide the best landscaping services possible and cause less disruption to your household.

### Earth Day April 22, 2013

Typical ways of observing Earth Day include planting trees, picking up roadside trash, conducting various programs for recycling and conservation, using recyclable containers for snacks and lunches.

Famous Conservationists include:  
**John James Audubon, David Brower, Rachel Carson, Jacques Cousteau, Jane Goodall, Leonard Horn (for whom this newsletter is named), Aldo Leopold, John Muir, Theodore Roosevelt and Henry David Thoreau amongst the notables.**

### What's Growing on.. News & Noteworthy

We are kicking into high gear with lawn renovations and vegetable gardens being the hot ticket in April. Our calendar books up quickly this time of year and the sooner you let us know if you need our help to do additional spring projects, the better chance we can get it onto the schedule.

**When we heal the earth, we heal ourselves. ~David Orr**