



# MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

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Date: April 5, 2010

What's growing on  
at the Garden!

## LIMIT HORTICULTURAL WASTE AND RECYCLE PLASTIC GARDEN POTS AT THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN *2010 Plastic Pot Recycling Program to Open May 3*

- WHAT:** Plastic Pot Recycling  
**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, May 3 through Sept. 30  
**WHERE:** Monsanto Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden, 4500 Shaw Blvd. at Vandeventer; visit Web site for satellite collection locations  
**SPONSORS:** Missouri Botanical Garden; St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District; Missouri Department of Natural Resources; Monrovia Growers, Inc.  
**INFO:** [www.plasticpotrecycling.org](http://www.plasticpotrecycling.org); (314) 577-9400, 1 (800) 642-8842 toll free

(ST. LOUIS): Close the gardening loop! The **Plastic Pot Recycling** collection at the Missouri Botanical Garden opens for the season on May 3! Help reduce the amount of horticultural waste in landfills by recycling your plastic garden pots, polystyrene cell packs and trays at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Plastic Pot Recycling will be offered daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. from May 3 through Sept. 30 at the Monsanto Center at the Missouri Botanical Garden, plus 10 more retail garden centers scattered throughout the St. Louis region.

The Missouri Botanical Garden operates the most extensive public garden recycling program in the nation. With the addition of **130,000 pounds** of horticultural waste in 2009, the Garden's Plastic Pot Recycling Program has saved over **850,000 pounds**, or 425 tons, of plastic garden pots, cell packs and trays from landfills to date.

"The public interest for recycling garden pots and trays is astonishing," said program founder and organizer Dr. Steven Cline, manager of the Garden's William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening. "Each year that we offer this program, the response is stronger and we are proud to share this with our retail garden center friends who support the environmental effort."

(over)

### **ADD ONE: Plastic Pot**

Horticulture plastic will be accepted at the Garden's main collection facility located at the west parking lot of the Monsanto Center, 4500 Shaw Blvd. at the corner of Vandeventer. Ten area garden centers will serve as satellite collection sites in 2010. Bowood Farms, Crabapple Cove Nursery, Garden Heights Nursery, Greenscape Gardens, Hartke Nursery, Rolling Ridge Garden Center, Summer Winds/Timber Creek Nursery, Thies Farm and Greenhouse, University Gardens, and new this year, Sherwood's Forest Nursery and Garden Center. Each satellite collection site will collect horticultural plastic during their normal business hours from May 3 through Sept. 30. Visit [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org) for location information.

Horticultural plastic accepted includes cell packs, trays, pots of all sizes and hanging baskets. Please shake soil and rocks out of containers and remove all metal hangers, rings or other foreign materials – no plastic bags or clay pots are accepted. Separate #6 plastic cell packs and trays from #2 and #5 plastic pots into the recycling trailers. Garden edging, plastic sheeting materials and food plastic will not be accepted.

Plastic is granulated on-site into chips that are easily transported for recycling. Planks (2 X six-inch X eight-feet) are made from the plastic regrind and sold back to consumers for use in landscaping projects. The plastic lumber is water and pest resistant and can be cut and drilled similar to wood. It will also outlast traditional wood lumber by three-to-five times, making it a more sustainable investment.

This year, the Missouri Botanical Garden is selling lumber and raised beds produced from 100 percent plastic pot regrind in partnership with Plastic Lumber Company of America, LLC. Proceeds from the sale of plastic timbers assist with funding for future collections. Grants from the St. Louis-Jefferson Solid Waste Management District, Missouri Department of Natural Resources, and California-based Monrovia Growers also support the program.

For more information on the Garden's Plastic Pot Recycling program, visit the [www.plasticpotrecycling.org](http://www.plasticpotrecycling.org). For more information on purchasing plastic landscape timbers, call the Kemper Center at (314) 577-9441 or download the order form from the website.

For general information, visit [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org) or call the recorded event line at (314) 577-9400 or toll-free 1 (800) 642-8842.

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**NOTE: Digital images available by request. Download media materials at [www.mobot.org/press](http://www.mobot.org/press).**

The Missouri Botanical Garden's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment, in order to preserve and enrich life." Today, 151 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display.

**The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in St. Louis, just south of I-44 at Vandeventer-Kingshighway (exit #287B). Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Dec. 25. Grounds open at 7 a.m. Wednesdays and Saturdays (exception: special admission rate events). Admission is \$8; free children ages 12 and under and Garden members. St. Louis City and County residents are \$4 and free Wednesdays and Saturdays until noon (exception: special admission rate events - third weekend of May, Labor Day weekend, and first weekend of October). Park for free on site and two blocks west at the Shaw-Vandeventer intersection. The Garden is easily accessible by taking the MetroLink commuter rail line to the Central West End station and picking up a Metro bus ([www.metrostlouis.org](http://www.metrostlouis.org)). For general information, log on to [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org) or call the 24-hour recording at (314) 577-9400 or 1 (800) 642-8842. For membership information, visit [www.mobot.org/membership](http://www.mobot.org/membership) call (314) 577-5118 during weekday business hours. For volunteer opportunities, visit [www.mobot.org/volunteer](http://www.mobot.org/volunteer) or call (314) 577-5187. The Missouri Botanical Garden is a tobacco-free environment.**