

N | flowers to go

Baltimore Orioles are flocking to feeders...

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Baltimore Orioles are flocking to feeders...

Nothing is more exciting than seeing the bright orange and black coloration of the Baltimore Orioles pay a visit to your yard. These beauties are quickly becoming one of America's favorite birds. They have a distinctive whistle and compose their own spring songs.

These tropical migrants typically arrive in early to mid May in Ohio. It is extremely important to have feeders ready ahead of their anticipated landing. Orioles will migrate at night and arrive tired, cold and hungry.

Orioles love oranges and this is a key tip to attracting them. Most feeders are this color to catch their eye. Upon inspection, a sliced orange, with the juicy side out, will be a welcome treat

Many different styles of feeders which hold oranges are available.

A strategically placed jelly feeder close to a window or patio will attract Orioles by droves. They love grape

jelly! I love the jelly/jam feeder which basically has an orange blossom that screws on a jar you fill with jelly. I use BirdBerry Jelly in my feeder. This jelly is lower in sugar than store brand jelly. It is the perfect combination of all natural grape and blackberry jellies. No corn sweeteners, or artificial ingredients are added. BirdBerry Jelly boasts it contains more fruit and fruit juice making it healthier for your visiting Orioles.

I have had some of my clients use normal grape jelly or jam which they have told me has been successful for them. I remember one lady tell me a funny story, she said," I must have finicky orioles." She switched from Smuckers to an off brand and they refused to eat it. Once she got the Smuckers back, they returned.

Another gal told me she mixed her jelly with equal parts of water and blends it in a blender until a thick juice consistency is achieved. This



stretches her jelly a little farther.

Nectar feeders with perches are also great choices for feeding Orioles. Orioles love the same sugary water as hummingbirds but they lack the ability to hover around the feeders. Many styles of orange colored feeders are available as well. The nectar can be purchased separately and just added as needed.

Once summer arrives, switch to mealworms or add a suet feeder to keep orioles around. They tend to switch to insects which provide more protein and nutritional value once nesting season begins.

If you are lucky enough, Orioles may make a nest in the shape of a basket at the tips of your tree limbs. Their favorite trees are elms but also like cottonwood trees and maples. Offer nesting material such as long strips of twine or horse hair.

The female will weave a nest in about a week while the male patrols the area and defends the territory. Once complete, the female will lay 4-5 pale gray to blue eggs which she will incubate for about two weeks. Both parents will help to feed the newborns the next two weeks. By the end of summer, all will leave and travel to a warmer tropical climate. The interesting thing is Orioles typically will next in the same spot the next year.

As for insects up and coming, Lilac borers have emerged. A spray with a systemic insecticide will help deter these pests.

Gypsy moths optimal time for spraying is happening this next week. If you have had this problem pest, a spray of spinodad from Fertilome is recommended. This wormicide eliminates the young before they cause damage.

The lesser peach tree borer will be arriving next week as well. This pest borers into peach trees, weeping cherries, plum, ornamental and fruiting, cherry trees, ornamental and fruiting and causes a nasty oozing sap out of limbs and or base of tree trunks. A spray of Bonide eight with permethrin coating the trunk, especially the base, will help avoid these drilling insects. Unattended fruit trees as to sprays can lead to a serious decline in viability of the trees. This is a very important spray!!

And last but not least, Euonymous scale will be hatching and the "crawlers" will be out on variegated euonymous. This insect problem looks like specs of hard white bits of sand all over plants on stems. These are actually a protective shell where insects live underneath and suck the sap out of your plant. It's a common problem

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SEE PAGE 5 >

Stewart's TV & Appliance is Celebrating 75 years and Still going Strong!



Since 1946 Stewart's TV and Appliance has been at the same location in Elvria, Ohio. Owned and operated by some of the 2nd generation members of the Stewart Family, they attribute their loval customer base to carrying on the legacy of their Dad, Dick Stewart's belief in giving everyone who walks through their door, friendly, personal service. With an in house service department, Stewart's can service your products when you need it. The sales specialists, technicians and delivery crew are experienced and ready to take care of you. 2021 has brought a whole new set of challenges to the business, from appliance shortages, backorders and the unfortunate loss of Greg Stewart, part owner and head technician. The family and employees are working harder than ever but doing very well and making an even stronger footprint in the community.

With more to offer than the "big box stores", Stewart's has an amazingly wide selection of major appliances and electronics from which to choose. Make your appliance selection from

major brands such as, Electrolux, Frigidaire, Kitchenaid, Whirlpool, Maytag, LG, GE, Bosch, Viking, Fisher Pavkel, Wolf, SubZero, Asko and others. If you think that your refrigerator or range is on it's last leg, it is a good idea to be proactive and shop now. It may take several weeks to get what you need and save you from having to go without your appliance while waiting. Since many families are working and attending school from home, their household appliances are getting around-the-clock workouts.

Whether you are building a new home, remodeling or replacing one item, a sales specialist from Stewart's will help you from start to finish. This wide selection and personal service keeps customers returning. Stewart's also offers 0% financing, free delivery, haul away on appliance purchases over \$499 within a limited area, as well as appliance repair on them.

Stop by Stewart's to see all of the current options we can offer you. Open 7 days a week, you can find us at 468 Cleveland St. in Elyria or online at www.stewartappliance.com.

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How to care for perennials

Perennials can add color and vibrancy to any garden. One of the more desirable components of perennials is that they come back year after year, meaning homeowners do not have to invest in a gardenful of new flowers every year. That can add up to considerable savings. Perennials often form the foundation of beautiful gardens.

Annuals only grow for one season, produce seeds and then die. However, perennials die back to the ground every autumn and their roots survive the winter. So the plants reemerge in the spring, according to The Farmer's Almanac. Some perennials are shortlived, meaning they will come back a few consecutive years; others will last for decades.

Though planted perennials require less maintenance than annuals, they are not completely maintenance-free. Certain care is needed to help perennials thrive, and that starts with the soil. In fact, soil is the single most important factor for growing healthy plants. Penn State Extension says most perennials grow ideally in well drained, fertile soil with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. In addition, organic matter can improve soil texture and water-holding ability.

When including perennials in the garden, make sure you wait for the right time to plant them. The ideal time is during the spring or fall. Perennials come as container-grown perennials, which already have been established in the soil. Bare-root perennials are just roots that are often packed in peat moss. In order to plant bare-root perennials, soak the roots in water for several minutes before gently planting in the ground, indicates



the how-to resource Tip Bulletin.

Perennials should be watered deeply, especially during the first growing season. However, the soil should never be overly dry or wet. Most perennials do not need to be fertilized heavily. A single application in the spring typically is all that's needed.

Care along the way can include deadheading spent flowers so that plants can use their energy on seed production and reblooming. Perennials should be divided when they grow large, every three to four years when the plants are not in bloom. Perennials produce fewer flowers or may look sickly when the time has passed to divide them. Early spring often is a good time to divide perennials, advises The Farmer's Almanac.

A thick layer of mulch can help perennials to overwinter successfully. Perennials planted in containers will need to be transplanted into the garden before it gets cold because most containers cannot thoroughly insulate perennial roots.

Apart from these strategies, perennials pretty much take care of themselves. As long as sunlight requirements match plant needs, the perennials should thrive.

BALTIMORE ORIOLES FROM PAGE 2

with euonymous and timing is everything. Now's the time!! Spray with horticultural oil or a systemic insect spray now and again in 2 weeks. This should eliminate these pests.

In closing, I want to mention the importance of keeping an eye on cold weather, 38 degrees or below. This is a telltale sign frost will occur. Cover your tender plants, tropicals, or flowers in bloom with an old sheet, burlap or some cloth till morning temperatures rise. This past week we covered our plants for 4 nights. Ugh!! It's a pain but, better safe then sorry. Thanks for reading!!



Infuse Living Spaces with Color

(Family Features)

From experiences to surroundings, the past year has brought a renewed focus on feeding the soul. In an era of overstimulation and information overload, many are finding a new appreciation for living life minimally but with maximum experiences.

That mentality is increasingly evident in all aspects of life, especially with home design and decor. After all, spending more time at home means more time to discover what truly evokes happiness.

At the same time, as the focus on physical and mental wellness heightens, design experts see those trends reflected in a more considered approach to design inspired by color therapy, which makes it possible to create beautiful spaces filled with healing color.

With an expertly coordinated color palette, like the Color Collections from HGTV Home by Sherwin-Williams, colors work in perfect harmony in any combination. Thoughtful use of color is among the most effective design tools for reveal-worthy style in your home.

APPLIANCES

In the past, appliances were meant

to blend into the decor to be less obvious, albeit essential, elements of a kitchen. A more contemporary approach: vibrant appliances that get noticed. You can find major appliances in a wide range of colors, but if you're not sure about going that big and bold, many smaller countertop appliances, such as stand mixers and toasters, come in a range of colorful options, too.

ARCHITECTURE

When contemplating where and how to apply color to a space, avoid boxing in your options. Think beyond traditional wall space when planning ways to change the color in a space; be thoughtful with color and highlight architectural details to elevate the interest and charm in your home. Take a 360-degree immersive color approach, painting the same shade from floor to ceiling and all around to create a mood-boosting lift to a room.

To infuse more color and boldness into your space, consider a timeless and elegant shade of red, like HGTV Home by Sherwin-Williams' 2021 Color of the Year. This paint color, "Passionate," is a deeply saturated hue that is daringly rich and invigorates the senses. This bold and empower-

ing red is steeped in history, merging modern design with traditional charm

FURNITURE

Whether you're into project pieces you can transform into something new or simply shopping for furnishings that complement your space, be sure to consider how the furniture fits into the overall color scheme. Selecting furniture that fits with the design brings a more cohesive and stylized feel to the room. For example, a desk and bookshelves in pale natural hues can lend warmth to an office with walls painted a cool dynamic blue. CABINETS

Painted cabinets are on-trend, and if you're bored with basic whites and grays, you're not alone. Designers are going bold in the kitchen and using cabinetry as a showpiece. These color palettes create inspiring spaces that invite you to get busy baking or simply pull up a chair and linger over a cup of coffee.

If you're concerned about how to bring a color palette together, consider using a collection that has been intentionally curated to mix and match shades for a perfect look no matter which hues you choose. You can easily

Incorporate Color Like a Pro

- Balance the boldness of red with soft whites and natural textures.
- Rustic reds and natural wood elements add warmth to a cool backdrop.
- An invigorating green hue pairs beautifully with brass, copper and rich wood tones.
- For a soft, mono-chromatic look that's full of complexity and dimension, add layers of texture with furnishings in the same color for a 3D color look.
- Carry bold color onto ceilings for a truly immersive experience

achieve a new look with an option like the Delightfully Daring Color Collection from HGTV Home by Sherwin-Williams. With earthy tones inspired by nature and a dose of vibrancy, the shades are simultaneously energizing and calming. The palette makes it easy to introduce statement colors in unexpected ways so you can feel confident in your selections.

Get inspired to bring healing design elements into your own home at hgtvhomebysherwinwilliams.com.





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