



# **KENNEDY'S COUNTRY GARDENS**

*"INSPIRING SUCCESSFUL GARDENS SINCE 1960"*

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## **Hydrangeas 2010**



*Forever & Ever Together*



*Forever & Ever White Out*



*Forever & Ever Peppermint*

**Kind like a closet, each year we add new items, and it gets harder and harder to remove some of our old favorites that don't seem to be as popular anymore.**

**We specialize in Hydrangeas at Kennedy's and there are so many new and exciting varieties to mention. Care and other helpful information can be found at the end of this list.**

### **Smooth Hydrangea**

**arborescens 'Annabelle'** – Extremely reliable this popular hydrangea has large, pure white ball-shaped flowers. Tolerant to pruning in early spring to control size.

**New!**

**arborescens 'Invincibelle Spirit'**- This exciting new introduction offers the same hardiness and vigor of H 'Annabelle' but with beautiful, big pink flowers. Proceeds to Breast Cancer Research

**arborescens 'White Dome'**- Sure to be a big hit in any garden, this new variety boasts plentiful, huge lacy, white dome shaped blossoms. Matures at 4-6' tall and wide. Hardy to zone 4.

## The Mopheads

*Mophead type hydrangeas have large leaves and large ball shaped flowers. The flower colors range from light blue to deep blue, to pink, to red, to white. These hydrangeas flower from late June into the fall. The flowers may reach as much as 12" wide on mature plants. They prefer morning sun with afternoon shade, but will tolerate full sun or as little as 2 hours of direct sun.*

**‘Alpenglow’** – A nice, deep pink variety. Striking flowers can be seen from a distance.

**‘Blushing Bride Endless Summer’**- A new introduction with all the outstanding qualities of H. ‘Endless Summer’ (see below) yet with lovely white blossoms with a pink blush.

**The Cityline Series** - A new group of hydrangeas from Germany with compact habit and large, showy blossoms. These hydrangeas only reach 1 to 3 feet in height and have a neat, tight habit so pruning is rarely required. No more pruning off flower buds by mistake. Large beautiful blooms are great for dried or cut flowers. Each of the four varieties is a slightly different shade of pink, and will be affected by soil pH. The result is an incredible plant that requires little care.

**‘Cityline Paris’**- Large intense red to violet blue flowers cover this compact beauty.

**‘Cityline Venice’**- Showy, large fuchsia to violet-blue flowers cover this tight, compact plant.

**‘Cityline Vienna’**- Dark pink flowers, each accented by cream colored throat, cover this petit beauty.

**New!** **‘Color Fantasy’**-This jewel for your landscape has red flowers with foliage that turns red in fall adding months of interest to your garden. A compact grower to 3’ tall and wide.

**‘David Ramsey’**- Pink to blue 4-6” blossoms, medium grower.

**‘Endless Summer’** – A colorful hydrangea that blooms on its new wood. Flowers even after the coldest of winters. Blooms range from soft pink to blue. Grows to about 4’.

**‘Forever & Ever® Early Sensation’**- Intense pink to blue blossoms on both old and new wood! Grows to 4’ tall and wide. This was the first variety in the Forever & Ever series of hydrangeas introduced in 2005. It's mophead flowers are either pink or blue depending on soil pH. Pruning of spent blooms will encourage more blooming throughout the season.

**‘Forever & Ever® Blue Heaven’**- Very large 12" blue or pink (determined by soil acidity) mophead flowers bloom on old and new wood, providing reliable.

**‘Forever & Ever® Double Pink’**- Introduced in 2006 this is a show stopper when in bloom! Large, full 6" clusters of double star-shaped flowers create a billowy mound on this compact plant. Blooms will be pink or blue depending on soil pH. performance in northern climates unlike that of older varieties. These blooms are quite impressive!

**New!** **‘Forever and Ever Peppermint’**- Eye-catching pink flowers edged with white. Looks like peppermint candy. Hardy, compact and floriferous!

**‘Forever & Ever® Together’**-The mophead blooms of this new variety can reach 8" across and are made up of double blue or pink flowers which progress through a series of colors throughout the season. Blooms begin opening a light green color in early summer and mature to rich violet or red by season’s end. Blooming on both old and new wood, this variety is an intriguing plant for hydrangea enthusiasts.

**‘Forever & Ever® Red’**-Introduced in 2006 this stunning red hydrangea blooms reliably in the north, has brilliant red blooms and burgundy-red stems. Its mophead flowers begin blooming red and then fade to shades of purple as they age.

**New!** **‘Forever & Ever® White Out’** –The latest edition in the series! A gorgeous full-bodied plant with large, 8” white mophead blooms comprised of individual flowers atop deep green leaves. Ideal for containers, beds and borders, this beauty blooms from midsummer until frost

**‘Glowing Embers’**- An outstanding variety with large crimson red flowers, the color deepens with age.

**‘Mini Penny’** – There is not a lot of information available on this plant yet, but this might just be the Holy Grail of Hydrangeas. Penny Mac is similar to Endless Summer (blooms long and reliably). This is supposed to be a dwarf version of this. I think this is a big break through in hydrangeas. Blue flowers almost guaranteed to bloom on a dwarf plant. I can’t wait until our Monrovia shipment arrives!

**‘Nigra’** – The dark stems of this variety contrast nicely with green foliage and dusty pink or blue blossoms.

**‘Nikko Blue’** – An old favorite. Noted for its large blue flowers. Flower color can range from soft pink to light blue. Grows to 5’. Popularity fading with improved varieties.

**‘Penny Mac’**- A tried and true hardy variety that flowers on new wood too, pink to blue depending on pH.

**‘Pia’** (also Pink Elf) – A true dwarf pink hydrangea. Grows to only 2-3’ tall and wide. Nice deep true pink flowers.

**‘Pink Beauty’**- Reddish stems and green leaves with a hint of maroon. Foliage is very attractive. Flowers start white with a tinge of pink and gradually turn a strong pink, then to a wine-red in fall. A beauty! Grows 4-5’. The soil pH does not effect flower color.

**‘Preziosa’** – Similar, if not the same as above.

**‘Purple Majesty’**- Deep green foliage serves as backdrop for large purple blossoms. Grows 4-5’. Forms a dense, full bush that looks great even out of bloom!

**‘Queen of Pearls’**- **An exciting new introduction developed by Dr. Michael Dirr and the research team at the University of Georgia. Flowers emerge a pale green before turning pure white and aging antique green. Grows 4**

**‘Time After Time’**- Ah competition for H. Endless Summer! Time After Time was introduced in 2006, by Pennsylvania Pride, this re-blooming Hydrangea has quickly become a summer color favorite for our customers. The large blue flowers are larger and deeper in color than other traditional re-bloomers in the industry. New flower buds are formed all season long until the first frost. It's a compact grower that displays bloom without leggy and weak growth.

### *The Lace Caps*

*Lace Cap Hydrangeas are large leafed varieties with flatter flowers that have a lacy appearance.. The flowers are small and fertile in the middle and have larger sepals that radiate out around the center. This type of hydrangea is often seen Cape Cod. Many view them as daintier than mop head types, but typically the flowers doe not last as long. They prefer morning sun and afternoon shade, but will tolerate full sun or bright shade sun.*



*Popular Lace Cap varieties:*

**New!**

**‘Blue Billow’**- Outstanding flowers open blue or pink. Some literature suggests the hardiest and most reliable blooming blue lace cap. Grows 4’ tall and wide.

**‘Blue Wave’** – Similar to above with light blue flowers.

**‘Forever and Ever Summer Lace’** – Gorgeous, delicate looking flowers on a tough, hardy, reliable long blooming plant. Flowers will be pink to blue depending on soil.

**‘Lace Cap Improved’** – Large growing to about 4-5’ tall and 3-4 wide. Flowers range from pinkish-purple to blue.

**‘Lady in Red’**- Flowers are pink to blue depending on soil ph and age to handsome burgundy-rose. Outstanding fall color.

**‘Let’s Dance Starlight’**- Lovely, lacy blossoms on this exceptional repeat bloomer. Pink to blue depending on ph.

**‘Light of Day’**- Delicate blossoms against lovely variegated green with white foliage.

**‘Midnight Duchess’**- A handsome **introduction** from Dr. Durr and his research team at the University of Georgia with dark mauve-pink flowers borne on purple-black stems, foliage is rich in purple tones. Grows 4 x 4’.

**‘Twist ‘N Shout** – A great new plant similar to Endless Summer blooms on new wood and blooms repeatedly throughout the growing season. Big, beautiful lace cap blossom and a bi-color mixture of deep pink and startling blue to create a truly unique landscape look. Sturdy stems and deep maroon-red to set off the copious bloom and the lustrous, deep green, mildew resistant foliage that produces a fall foliage color of deep maroon red. Zone 4 hardy.

### *The Panicle Hydrangeas*



*Also recognized as the "P.G." hydrangeas. These types are known for their large white flowers in late summer and early fall. These flowers turn pinks, reds and burgundys as they age. They make great cut or dried flowers. P.G. hydrangeas grow much larger than regular hydrangeas and are available in both tree and shrub form. They can grow to 12-15’ in height and spread. However, with pruning, they can be kept to about 8’tall and wide. They are much more sun tolerant than other varieties of hydrangeas.*

**paniculata ‘Grandiflora’** – Large creamy-white flowers. Often droop in full bloom giving the plant a weeping appearance. Flowers turn a beautiful rusty pink with age. Grows 10-15’ tall and wide. This is the common variety and still most popular.

**paniculata ‘Lime Light’**- This unique new introduction displays large, classy, lime-green flowers in late August. Grows 6- 8’ tall and wide.

**paniculata ‘Little Lamb’**- A compact new variety of floriferous plants with 6” tall flowers and deep green foliage. Mature size is only about half that of Hydrangea p. ‘Grandiflora’.

**paniculata ‘Pink Diamond’**- White blossoms become pink with age. Nice habit, grows to 6’.

**paniculata ‘Pinky Winky’** - An improvement of the old fashioned PG Hydrangea. This variety is the pinkest variety to date with very strong stems. Starts flowering in late July and looks great even as they dry on the stem through the fall. Grows 6-8 tall and wide. Hardy and easy.

**paniculata ‘Quick Fire’** - New! An early bloomer with white flowers that quickly turn to bright pink-red.

**paniculata ‘Tardiva’** – Similar to above with large white lacy flowers. Panicle tends to stand up straighter than ‘Grandiflora’.

**New!** **paniculata ‘White Diamonds’** - Gorgeous white frothy blossoms on strong stems. Grows 4-5’ tall and wide, is extremely prolific and hardy.

### *Climbing Hydrangea Vines*

**anomala petiolares** — nice dark green foliage when grown in shade. Pretty white flowers in June. Can be grown as a groundcover or shrub, but usually used as a shady vine. Useful for covering walls or growing up trees.

**Schizophragma hydrangeoides** - Japanese hydrangea vine is a deciduous, woody-stemmed, climbing vine which is valued for its toothed, heart-shaped, deep green leaves (3-5" long) and large, flat-topped, lace cap hydrangea-like clusters (8-10" across) of white flowers which bloom in early summer. Foliage turns yellow in fall. Attaches to and grows up flat vertical surfaces such as masonry walls by stem-borne adhesive rootlets. Reddish-brown stems provide some interest in winter.

### *Oakleaf Hydrangeas*

**quercifolia ‘Little Honey’** - Bright, beautiful yellow spring foliage emerges in spring on this new variety of Oakleaf Hydrangea. The screaming foliage will hold your attention in spring until they fade to green and the white flower cones emerge in early summer. The flowers last a long time and fade to a pink color before the fall foliage turns a brilliant scarlet color. A nice plant for all four seasons because of the interesting exfoliating bark looks great in winter too. Grows 3-4’ tall and wide. Zone 5.

**‘Pee Wee’** – Dwarf rounded variety. Grows 3-4’ tall. More refined than the other oakleaves. Red wine fall color is outstanding. Zone 5.

**‘Snowflake’** - introduction bears lovely, white 12-15” flower clusters. A new Brilliant crimson fall foliage. Grows 4 to 6’ tall and wide.

**‘Snow Queen’** - Large, creamy white panicles take on pink tones in late summer. Broadly pyramidal plant, grows 8’ tall and 10’ wide.

### ***Fertilizing hydrangeas:***

*Regular fertilizing of Hydrangeas is typically not needed. Occasional applications organic liquid fertilizers can be beneficial. They can be used monthly during the growing season. We suggest Neptune’s Harvest. Using a compost tea such as Soil Soup is also beneficial. This adds life (micro-organisms) to the soil. Aluminum Sulphate is considered a fertilizer, but it is really only useful for turning flowers of certain hydrangeas blue. This does not act as an all-purpose fertilizer.*

## ***Pruning Practices:***

*The general rule with pruning common hydrangeas is "don't touch them". Most mophead and lace cap hydrangeas flower off the old wood. This means the flower stems will come from the woody stems off last year's growth. If these stems are cut back, you will also cut back your chances of seeing flowers. These hydrangeas can be "nipped and tucked" in late spring to clean up any stems that do not leaf out all of the way. Do not cut them way back if you want to see blooms. If the hydrangea is too big for the area it is planted you are better off moving it to another location and picking a smaller growing variety. There are a few exceptions to the no pruning rule see the plant descriptions to find varieties that will flower on new wood. Panicle type hydrangeas like "Pee Gee" can be pruned in early spring to control the size or give it a better shape. Do not prune these in summer. Do the same for 'Annabelle' hydrangeas. They can be pruned in early spring also. Sometimes an early to mid-spring pruning helps keep them from drooping when they are in full bloom and weighted down by rainwater.*



## ***Flower color:***

*Flower colors vary on many lace cap and mophead hydrangeas. Many varieties are only one color such as 'Annabelle' or 'Forever Pink'. But most blue flowering varieties such as 'Nikko Blue' will produce blue flowers in acidic soil and pink flowers in alkaline soil. If your blue hydrangeas are flowering pink you can make your soil more acidic using Aluminum Sulphate fertilizer. This is the best way of turning your hydrangeas blue. Using an all-purpose fertilizer like MirAcid will maintain acidity but will not change the color very quickly. To turn your blue hydrangeas more pink, add lime to your soil. These techniques will work gradually. Lime, especially, take weeks or months to work in the soil.*

## ***Getting hydrangeas to bloom:***

*We hear it often that hydrangeas have great foliage, but no blooms. How can this be corrected? Cold winters and pruning are usually the culprits, but here are some things to try: 1. Do not prune most varieties of mophead and lace cap hydrangeas. See the pruning paragraph for details. 2. Fertilize them with Superphosphate 0-20-0. This will help promote flowering and nothing else. Avoid high nitrogen fertilizers that push heavy leaf growth. You want to focus the plant's energy on flowering. 3. Insulate the roots and stems of the hydrangea with leaves or salt marsh hay. This will protect them from cold winter temperatures that can kill their flower stems. 4. Plant hydrangeas in at least 2 hours of direct sun. If you have much less than a quarter of a day of sun during the summer, you may want to try moving them to a slightly sunnier spot. Too much hot, direct sun can also cause the plant not to flower as profusely. Somewhere in between is best. 5. Shock the root system. Take a shovel and push the blade straight down about 8-10" away from the edge of the plant. Do this all the way around the plant. This may trick the plant into thinking it is going to die and it feels the need to flower in a hurry so it can produce seeds in order to reproduce. **Good luck and enjoy!***