

Summer Newsletter 2017

Welcome to the summer edition of our Garden & Landscape news

Summer

With hot, dry weather just around the corner it's time to start preparing your garden for summer, but make sure you take some time to enjoy your spring gardening efforts.

Some of your vegies and herbs might be ready to harvest, or maybe you are enjoying the new splashes of colour brought about by the sunshine.

When the weather really warms up you will find that the beautiful aromas of wild herbs, lavenders, salvias and the traditional scented pelargoniums will fill your garden. Some of these scents can even deter pesky bugs.

Take some time out to enjoy your spring gardening efforts!

Mulching your garden now will help it to retain moisture over the drier months, which will also free up your time and save you money on the water bill!

Giving your garden long soaks at the coolest part of the day is important during the warmer months, but for those with hydrophobic soil, a wetting agent such as Rapid Soak will help it to retain moisture.

We hope you enjoy your summer gardening!

Meet the team...

Staff profile:
Daniel Burns



What is your position at ASQ Garden & Landscape:
I'm a yard hand at the Eaglehawk yard

How long have you been working at ASQ Garden & Landscape?
Just over 4 years

What do you enjoy most about your job?
Working with a great group of people

How did you end up in this field of work?
I applied for a job at ASQ Precast Concrete but instead was hired for this position

What are your hobbies?
I enjoy shooting and hunting

What do you like best about summer?
Spending time outdoors with family and friends

What is your favourite plant?
Nandina

In a few words, sum up ASQ Garden & Landscape.
Diverse, challenging and enjoyable

Worm castings

coming soon!

Gardening with worms

Did you know worms are capable of a lot more than just being bait on your fishing hook?

Without worms, we would be many kilometres deep in decaying vegetation and our soil wouldn't be able to grow healthy plants, including food.

These small creatures are hard at work in your garden but because they are below the surface you probably don't even realise!

Many people are under the impression that worms eat dirt, but they actually feast on the bacteria and fungi that grows on decomposing matter.

This diet allows worms to produce rich castings (manure) which is jam-packed full of the nutrients your garden craves.

Although there are many ways that worm castings can be added to your garden, we've compiled our top 3 for you to try!

1. If you're adding new plants to your garden, mix 1 part worm castings with 3 parts soil before you start.
2. If you're adding castings to plants already in the ground or pots, simply place a handful around the base of the plant and each time you water, the nutrients will work their way down.
3. Place 4 to 5 cups of worm castings in a homemade teabag (use an old t-shirt or sock), fill a bucket with water and let the casting soak overnight. By morning the water should be brown and ready for you to sprinkle on your plants!

Adding worm castings to your garden will do wonders in its self, but if you want to take your gardening to the next level, consider adding live worms.

Worms not only improve soil health and help your plants thrive, but they also help with aeration and getting more moisture into your soil.

The easiest way to add worms to your garden is to buy them but it's not as simple as throwing them in.

It is crucial that worms have food such as organic compost, garden compost, leaf matter or broken down manure (not fresh).

A year's preparation is ideal, and by the time it comes around (if you've done it right) you will go to dig a hole to plant and find a bunch of worms hard at work.

Brady Hunter



Did you know?

Lawn Solutions Oxafert Herbicide & Fertiliser is a pre-emergent which controls a variety of annual grasses and weeds!

Oxafert attacks weeds as soon as they come in to contact with the herbicide and will not harm your healthy turf or inhibit turf growth.



Water plants and ponds

There is nothing better than relaxing in the garden during summer, so why not add some water to your backyard and turn it into an outdoor oasis the whole family can enjoy?

The sight and sound of water in a garden can be very soothing and is easily achieved. Whether you're thinking of adding a small water feature or a large pond filled with fish, there are plenty of options when designing your own piece of paradise.

Adding plants to your water feature or pond will not only look beautiful, but it will also help to keep the water healthy and create a great ecosystem for your garden.

For expert advice on creating your backyard oasis and choosing the right products, visit your local ASQ Garden & Landscape store!

Rebecca Dajcic



Create a backyard oasis!

Things to do in the garden this summer!

The garden is a spectacular place to be in summer. Whether you enjoy outdoor entertaining or just sitting back and enjoying the serenity, there is still plenty of gardening to be done in the warmer months!

These are our top tips for helping your garden thrive this summer:

Water, water, water!

- Give your established trees and shrubs an hour long soak twice a week
- Give your vegies a generous soak each day
- Check your hoses and watering systems to make sure they are all in working order

Make the most of mulch

- Pine bark, bush bark, black bark, pebbles, and straw make wonderful mulches
- Use approximately 50mm of mulch when covering your garden beds

TIP: Mulching your garden will help it to retain moisture, meaning less time watering and money spent on the water bill!

Your garden isn't just thirsty, it's hungry, too!

- Fertilise your lawns, roses, fruit trees, shrubs and hedges with Grow Better Organic Fertiliser
- If your garden needs an extra boost, apply some Seasol PowerFeed

Pruning:

- Clear any dead shrubs and long grass around your home to reduce fire hazards
- Dead head your roses and cut back lavender and daisies to encourage new growth

Elisabeth Templeton



Find the perfect gift at ASQ Skydancers

Visit ASQ Skydancers in Harcourt and find something special for even the most hard-to-buy-for person!

Our range of deliciously scented Ecoya candles, diffusers, wax melts and even beauty products are sure to delight any lucky recipient.

If you're searching for something a bit more personal, check out our stunning display of jewellery, including pieces by Sybella and Tiger Tree.

Our range of home made and locally sourced food products are perfect for Christmas hampers and stocking fillers. From Jamie's Fine Dressings to Chocolate Provadore, there is something for both sweet and savoury lovers.

So if you're stuck for Christmas gift ideas this year, make sure you visit ASQ Skydancers in Harcourt where you're sure to find something for every member of the family.



Thank you for attending our 2017 VIP Nights!

On Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 November we hosted our annual VIP Nights at ASQ Skydancers in Harcourt.

Attendees enjoyed exclusive discounts, clearance tables, fine food, live music by Leigh Turner and presentations from our top suppliers including Mike from Grow Better, Jane from Coolibah Turf and Leigh from Purtill's Nursery.

This year we also presented our Community Rewards Program cheques across the two nights.

Our Community Rewards Program has been designed to support a range of community groups within the region. Each time an ASQ VIP member makes a purchase at ASQ Garden & Landscape a percentage of the sale goes to the organisation of their choice.

Organisations who received cheques over the two nights included:

- Castlemaine Health
- CWA Central Victoria
- Campbells Creek Primary School
- Harcourt CFA
- BAWCS
- MASARG
- Harcourt Valley Primary School
- Eaglehawk CFA
- Castlemaine CFA
- Bendigo Health
- Mt Alexander Animal Welfare Inc

For more information about our Community Rewards Program or to sign up as a VIP member please visit our website.



Have you checked out our blog?
www.asq.net.au/blog

Season's Greetings

From the team at ASQ Garden & Landscape,
we hope you have a safe and happy
Christmas and New Year!

Christmas closures:

Eaglehawk: Closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Castlemaine: Closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Maryborough: Closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day

Harcourt (Skydancers): Closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day



Plants as gifts

Christmas is just around the corner and we all have that one family member who is hard to buy for, so why not surprise them with a gift that keeps on growing?

Plants are a unique, thoughtful and lasting gift that everyone from the avid gardener to black thumb can enjoy!

Some of our favourite plants for Christmas gifts include:

- Poinsettia
- Succulent
- Bonsai
- Citrus tree
- Herbs
- Cactus
- Orchid
- Peace Lily



Rapid soak

Grow Better Rapid Soak saves time, water and plants by preventing the roots from drying out.

By increasing the water holding capacity of the soil, Rapid Soak also prevents water run-off and improves fertiliser distribution.

It breaks up the surface tension of the water allowing it to flow more readily, right down to the roots of your plants.

Rapid Soak is a very quick, effective and economical way to increase the water holding capacity of your soil this summer!



Eaglehawk

187 Upper California Gully Rd,
Eaglehawk

03 5446 1292

Mon-Fri: 9.00am-5.00pm

Sat: 9.00am-4.00pm

Sun: 10.00am-3.00pm

Harcourt (Skydancers)

Corner Blackjack Rd & Midland Hwy,
Harcourt

03 5474 3800

Mon-Fri: 7.30am-5.00pm

Sat-Sun: 9.00am-5.00pm

Maryborough

4 Penney Lane,
Flagstaff

03 5464 2662

Mon-Fri: 7.30am-5.00pm

Sat: 8.00am-4.00pm

Sun: 10.00am-3.00pm

Castlemaine

Corner Langslow & Martin Sts,
Castlemaine

03 5472 4053

Mon-Fri: 7.30am-5.00pm


Sat: 8.00am-4.00pm

Sun: 10.00am-3.00pm



www.asq.net.au

Where your great outdoors begin!

 Like our Facebook pages for updates and specials:

ASQ Skydancers – Garden Gift & Café
ASQ Garden & Landscape