



33 El Pueblo Road, Scotts Valley, CA 95066

(831) 438-4106

www.ScarboroughGardens.com

Rhododendrons

Rhododendrons are a versatile evergreen flowering shrub that add elegance and color to partly shaded landscapes. The color spectrum of the flowers say "Spring has Arrived." Thankfully they are not liked by deer, so they are a staple in the wooded areas of our country. Blend with ferns, wild ginger, coral bells, native iris, conifers, Japanese maples, and other shade loving plant material to create a beautiful, serene showcase in your garden. The following varieties are just some of those we carry, and as usual, we are happy to try to order any specific varieties you may desire.

'Anah Kruschke'

To 6 ft. Lavender blue to reddish purple. Plant has good foliage, is very heat and sun.

'Anna Rose Whitney'

To 6 ft. Has excellent foliage. Big trusses of blossoms in rich, deep pink.

'Catalina'

Pink flowers that fade to white in the center. Grows in a medium mounded plant habit. Attractive, dense foliage.

'Dreamland'

Has pale pink flowers bordered with deeper pink edges. Low compact shrub with attractive foliage.

'Golden Gate'

Flower is a funnel-shaped, reddish pink with orange rose edge and a pale orange throat. Held in open truss with about 10 flowers. Leaves are deep green and glossy. Dense, compact plant.

'Lavender Queen'

Flower is slightly frilly lavender with purple blotch. Held in a ball-shaped truss. Glossy, dark green, bronze in the winter. Shrub grows wider than tall.

'Lee's Dark Purple'

Flower is a broadly funnel-shaped, royal purple with greenish-brown. Held in a truss of about 26 flowers. Leaves have a slight waviness, dark green. Upright growth habit.

'Lillian Peste'

Flower is tubular, with wavy lobes. Light yellowish pink at lobe edges shading to a light vivid pink in throat with very narrow deep purplish pink edges, reverse shaded pink. Ball-shaped trusses of 25-30 flowers. Grows two times wider than tall.

'Lucy Lou'

Flower is a pure white. Held in trusses of 3-5 flowers. Leaves are a elliptic, hairy, scaly dark green. Compact, dense and broadly branching habit.

'Minnetonka'

The buds are a deep reddish purple opening to lavender pink flowers, with vivid yellow green spots. The trusses are dome shaped and tight. Foliage is a good deep green.

'Sapporo'

Flower broadly funnel-shaped, wavy edge, 2" across. Flowers opens pale purple tinged purplish pink on veins especially on outside with a deep purplish blotch. Quickly fades to white with age. Leaves are a slightly glossy green with little brown hairs. Compact, moderately open habit.

'Very Berry'

Showy rose red flowers are huge and held in magnificent, perfectly shaped trusses. The leaves are of equal proportion, up to 10" long. The leaves are a deep fir green, thickly covering the plant.

'Vulcan's Flame'

More heat tolerant than 'Vulcan', it also blooms at a younger age and more regularly every year. Leaves are deep green on the red stems.

'White Pearl'

To 6 ft tall. Flower is white with red spots in throat. Held in conical trusses with 9-12 flowers in each. Leaves are slightly rough-textured, glossy, dark green. Very good heat tolerance.

Rhododendron Recipe for Success

Rhododendrons are more versatile than commonly thought. While some perform well in partial shade, a few varieties are considered sun tolerant and can be used in more exposed situations. Most rhododendrons grow best in full morning sun with filtered sun or full shade in the afternoon. This combination assures good bud set, longer flower life and healthy, appealing foliage.

All rhododendrons require a fairly acidic soil. Good drainage is a must. A primary concern in growing a healthy rhododendron is its susceptibility to root-rot if kept too wet. Roots exposed to long periods of soggy soil will die. Hot wet conditions are more dangerous than cool wet conditions. Avoid this by mulching the root area and with thorough, less frequent watering.

We recommend feeding rhododendrons with a camellia, rhododendron, and azalea food four times a year: 1st immediately after flowering, 2nd in six weeks, 3rd mid summer, and 4th early fall. We like to use the Shultz Camellia, Azalea and Rhododendron Fertilizer or if you prefer organic we recommend the Dr. Earth Acid Loving Plants Fertilizer. Water thoroughly after fertilizing. Dead blossoms should be removed from the plant to encourage new growth. Water generously when first planted to establish firm roots.

Once established in an appropriate environment rhododendrons are a sure bet to be the highlight of any garden, every year, with a minimum of maintenance.

Thank you to Laurie at **Bay Laurel** for this helpful piece of information and recipe for success.