

Gardener's Delight



Shower Power ♡

Since rain is practically nonexistent half the year, a sprinkler system can be a big help in getting water to your plants, and **Pandora's Box** presents this necessity in the form of flower-shaped sprinklers. The Flower Shower by Hart Art, a Tennessee-based husband and wife team, is a collection of both three-foot- and six-foot-tall, metal sprinklers that look like, well, giant flowers. Patina green "stalks" feature leaves hanging from copper wire, two standard on/off valves painted yellow, and large, brightly painted metal flowers surrounding a fully functional sprinkler, which is attached to the stand by an adjustable metal hose. At the bottom of the stalks you'll find a regular hose connection. The neighbors will notice. *Pandora's Box*, 2075 Periwinkle Way, #1, Sanibel, 239-472-6263

Maybe it was a fluke, but when we went in search of gardening accoutrements it just happened to be one of those gray, rainy days—a rarity in these parts, yet quite fitting given the subject matter. Here we present some ideas to assist you in cultivating that patch of earth to perfection, Southwest Florida style, rain or shine. — by Julie Clay

Digging in Style ♡

Now get out there and get those proverbial hands dirty. Better yet, put on the comfy (even stylish) gloves we found at **Bailey's General Store**. These seafoam green gloves by Garden Party have raised dots for better gripping. If you're applying pesticide, you might opt for protection from black neoprene chemical gloves by Wells Lamont. And never mind the rain, it's the sun you need to block out, and straw hats by Florida Headwear work great. Choose from wide and extra-wide brims as well as those with straw flowers adorn-



ing the sides. Several of these hats also come in assorted colors, including pink and white. Finally, your knees will be happy with the one-inch-thick foam of a knee cushion. They are available in bright colors like lilac, lime green, pink, and blue and are water-resistant. A hole at one end makes for a perfect carrying handle.

Bailey's General Store, 2477 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 239-472-1516, www.baileys-sanibel.com



♡ Cultivate Your Green Thumb

Before you head out to tackle your yard, you might want to do some reading on the subject. Some appropriate books can be found at **Sanibel Island Bookshop**. Featured titles include *Orchids for Dummies* by Steven A. Frowine, *Florida, My Eden* by Frederic Stresau, FASLA, and *Florida Landscape Plants* by John V. Watkins. *A Gardener's Guide to Florida's Native Plants* by Rufino Osorio might also come in handy. *Sanibel Island Bookshop*, 1711 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, 239-472-5223, www.sanibelbookshop.com, hollie@sanibelbookshop.com