

Tough Economic Times

Do what your parents or grandparents did during the depression

- ◆ Time to stay home and be with your family
- ◆ Time to garden and grow some of your own fruit and vegetables
- ◆ Time to stop watching the news
- ◆ Time to stop worrying about real estate
- ◆ Time to cook with simple ingredients and make cheap nutritious meals
- ◆ Time to breathe

Come to Mc Gain's to relax and unwind in a tranquil environment.

Wander through the Nursery at your leisure or visit the Organic Food Store for a great range of quality produce.

Create a Great Garden on a Limited Budget

1. Take 10 photos of your:
 - vacant block
 - new house
 - existing garden
2. Bring the photos and a soil sample in to Mc Gain's
3. We will advise you on the logical steps
 - Weed control
 - Soil improvement
 - Plant selection

Soil pH

What is soil pH?

Soil pH is a measure of the level of acidity or alkalinity of the soil. Soil pH is measured on a scale of 0 to 14. A pH value of 7 indicates neutrality, while a value of less than 7 indicates acidity and a value over 7 indicates alkalinity. Soil pH can easily be measured using a soil pH test kit.

Why is soil pH important?

Soil pH can have a dramatic impact on plant growth because it affects the availability of essential nutrients in the soil. Different nutrients become available at different pH values. Some plants grow well in acidic soils, some thrive in alkaline soils while others grow better in neutral soils as the nutrients they require are available at different pH values.

Bring in a soil sample for a free pH test.

What's New in the Nursery

- WE NOW STOCK A VARIETY OF MUSHROOM KITS SO YOU CAN GROW YOUR OWN MUSHROOMS
- WE'VE GOT WORMS! STARTER PACKS AND BOOSTER BOXES AVAILABLE.
- A NEW RANGE OF POTS AND BIRDBATHS HAVE JUST ARRIVED
- WE ALSO HAVE A BEAUTIFUL COLLECTION OF METAL WALL ART AND LIMESTONE SCULPTURES

With plants starting at
**\$3.90 each, 6 for \$20 or
20 for \$60, you don't
have to spend a
lot to achieve a lot.**

Present this

coupon

for 10% off

Manutec

Soil pH Test Kits

Tips for Gardening on the Surfcoast

Cockies

The Sulphur Crested Cockatoo is the greatest pest on the Surfcoast. The Cocky loves living on the Surfcoast because there is an abundant food supply (some foolish people even feed them) and lots of games to play. His/her favourite game is "Eat the Holiday House" and then sit in a nearby tree on a Friday night and watch the weekenders turn into apes. Actually what is happening is that a cocky's beak grows about 2 inches (5cm) per year and needs to constantly file it away in order to eat properly. The softwoods of our houses provide a comfortable method of keeping the old beak in check. Homeowners have come up with some ingenious methods of keeping the cockies away. Rubber snakes on the roof, pergola and balustrading seem to be effective.

Mulch, mulch and more mulch

Retain water by trapping the available moisture under the mulch and protecting the surface roots from drying out.

Bunny troubles

We have found that Society Garlic, Tulbaghia, is excellent as a rabbit repellent. It is an easy to grow, long flowering bulb which bears dainty star-shaped lavender flowers on slender stems during summer. Divide them annually and spread them around your garden.

Myoporums—Plants for places where plants won't grow

Myoporum insulare "Boobialla" - Indigenous to the Surfcoast. Extremely hardy, fast growing, salt and wind resistant to the height of 4-6 metres. Great screen plant but needs annual pruning to keep dense.

Myoporum viscosum - Indigenous to the Surfcoast. Quick growing small shrub to 2 metres. Excellent dense shrub for windy position.

Myoporum bateae - Extremely fast growing shrub to 3 metres. Excellent for growing under trees.

Myoporum parvifolium - Ground covers, spread to 2 metres wide. Great for trailing over retaining walls or clay embankments. Available in fine leaf form with

white flowers and broad leaf form with either white or pink flowers.

Possums

Fill a nylon sock or the foot of a stocking with blood and bone and hang it where you don't want them to go.

Propagating sand

Soil on the Surfcoast is generally either:

1. Too fine - looks like talcum powder and water can't penetrate
2. Too heavy—clay is also fine particles that water can't penetrate

Good soil preparation means you get good results from your gardening. Improve your soil structure by digging in propagating sand. You will be amazed at the difference it makes.

What you need is big particles.

Bee early

Bees don't like transporting wet pollen. Watering during the day can affect the pollination of fruit and vegetables. Water early in the morning or after sunset, and preferably keep the foliage dry.

Your husband, wife or kids may well be the only 'Bs'

living at your place. If you have not seen any little bees around your tomatoes, other vegies, passionfruit etc. you may have to revert to hand pollinating to ensure fruit formation.

Simply get a small artist's brush and lightly touch the flowers and move the pollen from one flower to another.

Remember to relax

Gardening is not work, it's about creating a better environment in which to spend your leisure time. Sit down on your vine-covered deck, breathe in the perfumes of your garden and think how lucky we are to live in the most beautiful part of the most beautiful country.

Mc Gain's Organic Food Store News

New products

- ◆ A range of ready to eat organic meals including soups, curries and risottos.
- ◆ Vegetarian pies, samosas, riceballs, tofu burgers and pakoras
- ◆ Herbs and spices
- ◆ Pasta sauce, pestos and dips
- ◆ Non-alcoholic wines & beers
- ◆ Refreshed Lemon Myrtle handwash, shampoo & conditioner

Our Organic Food Store is stocked with the most amazing range of products including:

Fresh fruit and vegetables, milk, cheeses and yoghurts, soy products, beef, lamb, and smallgoods, real free range chicken, breads, cereals and grains, local free range and biodynamic eggs, teas, coffees and fruit juices, and many other organic grocery items.

Shop in our Organic Food Store for the chance to win a \$50 voucher Drawn every Sunday

Basket of groceries we bought on 14th October

Coles Belmont \$ 42.34

Mc Gain's Anglesea \$ 32.15

See in store for details

Christmas Shopping

- ◆ Think about what you are buying
- ◆ Before you head for the big smoke to do your Christmas shopping, have a look at Mc Gain's
- ◆ Buy what you can afford, don't finish up with a huge credit card bill in February.

Mc Gain's have 100's of gift ideas to suit everyone



25 Great Gift Ideas for Big People

- ◆ Herb Pots
- ◆ Olive trees
- ◆ Citrus
- ◆ Grass trees
- ◆ Succulent bowls
- ◆ Bloomer pots
- ◆ Poinsettias
- ◆ Salad bowls
- ◆ Bird houses
- ◆ Wine barrels
- ◆ Terracotta pots
- ◆ Glazed pots
- ◆ Old Stone pots
- ◆ Bird baths
- ◆ Glazed wall plaques
- ◆ Cane baskets
- ◆ Metal sculptures
- ◆ Worm farms
- ◆ Mushroom kits
- ◆ Bokashi compost buckets
- ◆ Jams
- ◆ Pickles and chutneys
- ◆ Non-alcoholic wine
- ◆ Non-alcoholic beer
- ◆ Refreshed Lemon Myrtle products

5 Great Gift Ideas for Little People

- ◆ Mushroom kits
- ◆ Carnivorous plants
- ◆ Ant farms
- ◆ Worm farms
- ◆ Tiny Tim tomatoes

Poinsettias

Small \$19.50

Large \$34.50

Salad bowls

\$34.50

Gift baskets

Make up your own from \$ 20

Complimentary

Gift Wrapping

Service

Gift Vouchers

Available

in multiples of \$10

Christmas Message

- ◆ If you believe in a god, see nature and plants as his or her handiwork and look after it.
- ◆ If you don't believe in a god, see nature as part of an evolutionary process and play your part.
- ◆ Regardless of what you believe, take the time to reconnect with your values and act locally.

McGain's Nursery & Organic Food Store staff wish to thank our customers for your support throughout the year.

Regards

Pam & Peter, Jane, Janni, Alison, Neil, Cabs, Karen, Sherry and Edward

Christmas Trading Hours

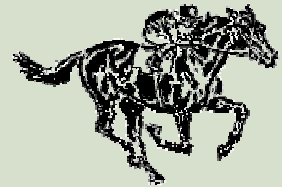
We are closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day

Extended January Trading Hours

Open every day 8.30am — 6pm

MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND SALE

1ST - 4TH NOVEMBER



20% OFF PLANTS & POTS

Where Are We?



Mc Gain's Nursery & Organic Food Store

1 Simmons Crt
Anglesea Industrial Estate
Anglesea Vic 3230

Phone: 03 5263 3841
Facsimile: 03 5263 3845
Email: info@mcgains.com.au
www: www.mcgains.com.au

Trading Hours

Open everyday 9am-5pm

Extended January Trading Hours

Open everyday 8.30am-6pm

- ◆ Grow your own vegies and \$ave
- ◆ Cook organic food and \$ave
- ◆ Stress free way of doing your Christmas shopping
- ◆ Visit McGain's to rediscover a simple and healthy way of living

Mc Gain's has been voted

1. One of the best small nurseries in Victoria
Nursery and Garden Industry Association of Victoria, February 2007
2. One of the best regional fruit shops in Victoria
Mystery shoppers, Melbourne Markets Authority, September 2008

Would you like to receive our newsletter via email?

If so, email
info@mcgains.com.au

Back issues of our newsletter are also available at our website
www.mcgains.com.au