Have questions? Reply to this email and we'll respond as soon as possible.



### Grow your plants like a boss with MOSS!

You've seen them around- poles made of sphagnum moss or coco fiber, looming large in the corner of every garden center. But what's the big deal about moss poles? Why are they essential for certain plants?

#### 5 Benefits of using Moss Poles

#### 1. Structural Support

We all need a little support sometimes, and our plants are no different! Poles offer a larger, sturdier structure for plants to lean onto as they grow. When plants get larger, they tend to sag over from its own weight, which can lead to snapping stems and broken leaves! Ouch!

## 2. It mimics the plant's natural growing patterns

Moss poles are beneficial for vining, tropical plants- particularly epiphytic plants. The best examples of this are **Philodendrons, Pothos, and Monsteras.** In the wild, they climb up large trees and absorb the moisture they need through aerial roots (they grow from the middle of the stems and grab hold of the tree's surface.) Moss poles mimic this natural process, gives their aerial roots moisture, and provides a nutrient-rich surface for your plant to grab hold of and climb!



#### 3. They Will Produce Larger Leaves

Moss poles cause your plant to produce larger, more mature leaves! This is because (1) taller plants think they are closer to the sunlight at the top of rainforest canopies, and (2) the contact between your plant's aerial roots and your moss pole triggers the development of leaves that are larger with more fenestrations! The extra moisture and micronutrients in the moss pole will also really kick your plant's growth into high gear.

#### 4. They're space-savers

More mature plants can take up a LOT of floor space, especially Monsteras! If you mount your plant onto a moss pole, it will start to grow upwards, instead of outwards. Helping your plant to occupy vertical space will keep your larger plants from taking up half of your living room! Also, lots of moss poles are bendable, making it easier to attach to your plant's unique stem shape.

#### 5. They can make your plants look more attractive.

Do you have a vining plant that looks like it's got way more stem than leaves? Worry not, wrapping it around a moss pole will bring its foliage closer together and directs the visual focus from its bald vines to its leaves instead! Even the most

bare, struggling Pothos or Philodendron can look lush and full with the use of a moss pole.

Do you have a plant at home that could benefit from a moss pole? Join us in our Make Your Own Moss Pole class this **Saturday, April 13th at 1pm!** Bring a plant from home that would benefit from a moss pole, and with the help of the experts at Alice's Garden you'll create your own 24-inch moss pole, and attach it!

To buy tickets to this class, head to our Eventbrite (or call/visit the store for tickets to avoid those pesky processing fees!)

# Featured Houseplant:



This week's featured houseplant is perfect for this rainy weather- the Peperomia Polybotrya, aka: "Raindrop" Peperomia! This plant is extremely easy-care, it likes bright indirect light, and wants to be about halfway dry between watering. Its thick, glossy, succulent-like leaves store moisture, which means you don't have to water it nearly as often as you'd think! Peperomia plants are often thought to be lucky, and symbolize new beginnings and prosperity.



Spring has Sprung!

Join us on **April 27th** for a very special FREE Spring Kick-Off Event!

This special day will feature:

- A pop-up market featuring local, artisan makers from 10am-2pm
- Locally roasted coffee from Tapestry Coffee Truck, 10am-2pm
- A Porch Pot Making Class at 1pm, click here for tickets
- · Special deals on plants & accessories
- · Giveaways with awesome prizes!

Event will last all day from 10am-6pm- no need to register, just come ready to have fun!

## This Week's To-Do List!

Our weekly segment where we give you the top priorities for your garden!

- Plant your summer-blooming bulbs!
- Assess waterlogged areas of your yard and think about installing rain gardens and extra plantings to help absorb excess water. (Be sure to check out next

week's newsletter for more info about rain gardens and planting for water distribution!)

### **Upcoming Classes:**

•April 13th, 1pm: Make Your Own Moss Pole

•April 20th, 1pm: Plant Repotting Class

•April 27th, 1pm: Porch Pot Workshop

•April 27th, 10am-6pm: FREE Spring Kickoff Event! (no registration required)

•May 4th, 1pm: Mother's Day Candle Pouring Workshop

•June 1st, 1pm: Terrarium Building Class

•July 13th, 1pm: Advanced Macrame Hanging Plant Holder Class

To purchase tickets to any of these events, head to our Eventbrite Page, visit the store, or call us at (317) 291-1441 to reserve your spot today!







Alice's Garden

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