

GIFTS FOR THE GREEN THUMBER IN YOUR FAMILY

By Jim Douglas

Ninety percent of Americans either raise plants. Gardeners love getting gardening gifts. Many of us forget about giving gardening tools and equipment during the winter season. Alaska Cooperative Extension Service receives numerous gardening catalogs each year, and they are full of gifts for the gardener. If you want to purchase a gift for a gardener you can stop by our office in the Vintage Business Park and browse through our catalogs. If you are on e-mail you can also browse the web and find many excellent sites.

Some of the many gifts you may want to think about would include: indoor watering cans, rolling plant caddy for moving plants, indoor watering hose, gardening stands, skin coat - acts like an invisible glove which you wash off after a day in the garden, cotton, leather, or rubber gloves, row covers to protect plants from frost and insects, small rototillers, lawn aerator sandals, pruning loppers, hand shears, and saws, composters, gardening gloves, garden forks, spades, shovels, hoes rakes, hand trowels, and other hand implements, tree wrap, soil thermometers, hand and wheel spreaders, rain gear, gardening books, gardening magazine subscriptions, and much much more.

Local stores carry many of these items. Some times of the year they put their gardening equipment in storage, but you can always ask what they have. We have several excellent book stores in town, and they all have some gardening materials on hand. The Friends of the Library store has some excellent second hand gardening books. Local nurseries offer gift certificates for plants to be purchased in the future.