

# Cayuga Landscape Company, Inc.

2712 North Triphammer Road \* Ithaca, NY 14850

(607) 257-3000 \* FAX (607) 257-5242

## My *Hydrangea macrophylla* will NOT FLOWER...WHY???

- *Hydrangea macrophylla* suffers dieback during typical winters in the North
  - *H. macrophylla* is usually blue or pink mopheads and lacecaps most of us envision when the word Hydrangea is used
- *H. macrophylla* enters winter with the buds of next year's flowers on the tips of their stems
- For most cultivars, if these buds die, or if the stem to which they are attached dies during the winter, then the plant is unable to produce blooms the following summer- NO MATTER WHAT!

## Growing Tips/Interesting Facts

- "*Macrophylla*" means Big Leaf----*Hydrangea* means Water Vessel which means, *macrophylla* need lots of water to keep its foliage sturdy
- *H. macrophylla* is happiest with filtered sun all day long. They want to be in a location where the hot afternoon sun is blocked out! Under a tree with filtered sun seems perfect!
- Protection from wind is also important! Wind will dry the leaves as quickly as sun will.
- In order to thrive, *H. macrophylla* needs moist soil! Regular watering can compensate for a dry site.
- *H. macrophylla* prefers mildly acidic soil. If the soil is too alkaline, your hydrangea may look healthy yet it will not have the vigor to grow well & produce blooms.
- Phosphorus (P) should be kept to a minimum---Potassium (K) increases cold-tolerance so adding K to your soil may be the difference between blooming and not blooming

All the Information found in the Packet is from the book *Hydrangeas in the North* by Tim Boebel.

Tim Boebel is the one to be credited for the 5 Steps to Spectacular Blooms!

Check out his website at <http://www.hydrangeasinthenorth.com/>. You can also find his book on Amazon.