



work. life. creativity
it's about being done.

May 2011 Newsletter

Spring has sprung! Unfortunately, for a lot of us more northerly denizens, that's news to the ground, the weather, and everything else that grows. A few of the trees are sprouting, but gardens everywhere need a lot more TLC than usual this year.

Seasoned gardeners know you need a strong indoor operation to get things going - but container gardening benefits a lot more than just your outdoor decor. It can kick-start the rest of your life too.

A few years ago my associate Patricia decided to take the plunge into the world of bonsai trees. Her mistake was getting an outdoor type for her indoor experiment, but it did pretty well for the next year just hanging out in an open window (the glass blocks critical UV rays).

Although it did eventually die, the year-long experiment helped Patricia develop good habits and excellent personal discipline. Misting the bonsai 3 times a day gave her a valid reason to get away from the computer - a miracle at the time - and helped her relax while kick-starting her brain on the next task to be tackled. She was more productive, more focused, and more decisive in her actions for having taken a focused 5-minute pause to play mommy to a bonsai.

In the fall she wire-wrapped it for a new shape, tweaking it slightly throughout the tree's winter dormancy, and let it loose in the following spring. No bonus, no sales spike and no product launch could match her glee upon unwrapping that bonsai. All that hard work paid off - she now had a gorgeously shaped 6-year-old bonsai that was well on its way to looking nearly twice its age by wrapping it over itself to thicken the trunk.

The inanely slow growth rate of her bonsai helped her to recognize that hard work sometimes takes a while to mature. I can be difficult to see where things are going because it's moving so slowly, and it taught her to have patience with her business and personal endeavors.

Sometimes accomplishments can be such simple things. If you have never felt the pride of watching your child or pet grow up, nurturing a plant is the next best thing. As you feed it, it feeds you - and it's a beautiful addition to any home office.

Novices and experts alike are invited to join us on the forums and blog for advanced tips and techniques, plus fresh ideas for your green personal therapy. While you wait, refresh your green thumb with this excellent article from About.com - <http://containergardening.about.com/od/containergardening101/tp/Beforeyoustart.htm>

I can't wait to see your ideas blossom on the boards. See you there!

Regards,
The work.life.creativity Team.