



Sustainable Horticulture and Floral Art



Sustainability often occurs in small steps. Daily choices away from a straight-line economy like Supplier- Trinity Village-Landfill for waste products to a more circular economy – change supply to reduce waste product – keep the supply within Trinity Village for longer – find a use for the waste product to either recycle or re-use in another way.

Plastic plant pots are one such item that notoriously find their way into the landfill all in one short growing season. Here at Trinity Village Horticulture, we have streamlined our grow operation to use less plastic by adopting soil blocking (better for the transplants), reusing our 4-inch square pots for several years (for those seedlings too large for the soil blocking program) and recycling our excess supply of large plant pots by donating them to the local Horticulture Society.



Each of these endpoints requires more thought and consideration than the same-old of yesteryear. Sometimes it is hard discipline to ask ourselves: Why are you throwing this away? Is there a better option to pursue? Why are you reaching for that product? Is there one that is truly more sustainable? Those questions are just the beginning investigations of a truly sustainable operation.



Take floral foam. It is a florist's dream. Holds moisture, keeps stems upright or more importantly, sideways in a design without falling out; it is so readily available, so cheap and so versatile. What is not to like about floral foam? – It is a petroleum-based, toxic, single use item that evidences unsustainability in every block.

It takes longer to design without floral foam. Alternative designs require relearning the trade. Chicken wire is a beast to work with; other options are expensive. Floral designs without floral foam require more frequent watering care. And so on.



At Trinity Village, though the choice for sustainability in floral design was an obvious one, it was not always an easy commitment to keep. However, design by design, we kept choosing sustainable outcomes until, as of today, we are 100% floral foam free in all the seasonal floral work we do. Is Trinity Village floral foam free? Not yet. Other florists, whose work is brought in, have not yet found and adopted sustainable solutions. We can only take responsibility for our own work. And we appreciate the business implications of choosing toward a more sustainable future.



Are there other parts of the Trinity Village Horticulture operation that could be more sustainable? Share your thoughts with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

