



# OGDEN'S DESIGN & PLANTINGS, INC.

WWW.OGDENS.COM

TEL: (631) 473-5064

## MOPHEADS & LACECAPS

Mophead and lacecap are names that you often hear when talking about hydrangeas but do you really know what these words mean? The names refer to two unique flower types; each one distinctly different from the other.



**Mophead**

Mopheads are the most common and traditional flower type. When you think of a hydrangea with a large round pom-pom shaped flower, that's a

mophead. Mopheads can be large or small, depending on the variety. One of the first mopheads to bloom on Long Island is *Hydrangea aborescens* 'Annabelle'. Large white flowers that stretch up to 12" across open in June. 'Nikko Blue' an old time favorite with enormous brilliant blue flowers July and August. More compact mopheads include 'Glowing Embers', 'Pia', 'Matilda Gutes' and 'Endless Summer'.

Some mopheads have sterile flowers with petal-like sepals and others have small fertile flowers with stary petals. Sterile flowers last much longer than fertile flowers, often fading well into the end of the summer. Mopheads can bloom in such profusion on a single plant that they often

bend over under their own weight. They come in many fabulous shades of blue, from very pale, almost sky-blue, to deep purple, pink and white. Each variety has its own range of color which is influenced by the soil pH and uptake of aluminum.

Lacecaps on the other hand have flat flowerheads with a circle of unopened 'buds' in the center and then large striking individual flowerets surrounding the outer edge. The open sterile flowers around the edge attract insects to the pollen-laden fertile buds in the center.

The name lacecap was coined by Michael Haworth-Booth (a 20<sup>th</sup> century British hydrangea grower and breeder) and has stuck! Some great examples of old classic large lacecap hydrangeas include 'Tokyo Delight', 'Lanarth White', 'Nightingale' and 'Taube'. *Hydrangea serrata* 'Blue Billow' is perhaps one of the most hardiest, with superb upright form and habit.



**Lacecap**

Both mophead and lacecap hydrangeas are great additions to any garden and as there are so many types you are sure to find one that will grow in your garden. Call us if you need help.

### Design & Installation:

- Natural Gardens
- Japanese Gardens
- Bed Maintenance
- Therapeutic Gardens
- Paths & Patios
- Stone & Brickwork
- Specialty Gardens
- Seasonal Color & Interest

### Summer To-Do List:

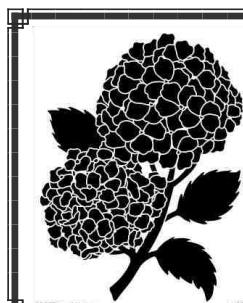
- Remove flowerheads from spring bulbs
- Prune privets and yews
- Fertilize roses and annuals
- Apply summer mulch to rose beds and flower borders
- Deadhead annuals and perennials
- Prune climbing roses
- Check irrigation systems
- Buy spring-flowering bulbs

### Ogdenwords:

**Acidic soil:** Soils with little or no lime content. On the pH scale figures below 7 are increasingly acid.

**Sepal:** A modified leaf at the base of the flower that encloses the petals and other parts.

**Sterile:** Unfruitful, barren, not producing fruit, seeds or spores.



Lecture and Nursery Tour

*Early Blooming Hydrangeas*

Sunday, June 29th at 11am

650 North Country Road, St James, NY  
RSVP 631-473-5064 or email: public@ogdens.com

For Color, Color and More Color  
Call (631) 473-5064