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## **An Endless Summer of Hydrangeas**

Here at Smith's Acres, we're all smitten with Hydrangeas- the classic beachside shrub. There are so many to choose from that it quite honestly gets a little confusing. So here's the basics about some of our favorites, and the basics of how to get the most flowering out of your plants.

First, we should tell you that there are groups of Hydrangeas, all beautiful:

Mopheads have the giant ball shaped cluster of flowers.

Lace-caps have flat flowers with a circle of hydrangea petals.

Panicle-types have the large, cone shaped flowers.

Oakleaf Hydrangeas have a panicle shaped flower with a large leaf very similar to Oak tree.

Climbing Hydrangeas have lace-cap type flowers, but are more vine than shrub. That being said, here are some details of some favorite varieties to help you decide what's best for your garden.

### Mophead Hydrangeas:

'Annabelle': classic, old fashioned giant white flowers.

'Big Daddy': large blue to pink flowers on 4'H x 6'W shrubs.

'Blushing Bride': white blushed pink flowers similar to Endless Summer.

'Endless Summer': popular blue reblooming hydrangea. Grows to about 4'H.

'Lemon Daddy': yellow leaf hydrangea with soft pink to pale blue flowers.

'Merritt Supreme': pink flowering, grows 4-5' tall.

'Mini Penny': dwarf blue flowering hydrangea similar to Endless Summer.

'Nikko Blue': classic blue beachside plant.

'Pia': dwarf rich pink bloomer, grows 2-3'tall.

'Penny Mac': pink to blue depending on soil, blooms like Endless Summer.

### Lace-cap Hydrangeas:

'Bits of Lace': huge blue to pink flower heads all summer into fall.

'Blue Billow': a 4'H x 4'W blue to pink bloomer.

'Claudie': rich blue to mauve florets surrounding deep blue center.

'Lady in Red': gorgeous burgundy foliage and stems, with pink flowers.

'Variegata': beautiful foliage for shade with blue to pink flowers.

### Panicle Hydrangeas:

'Pinky Winky': we have this one out back- so pretty white turning pink flowers, great for fall color, grows 6-8'H x W.

'Quickfire': earlier blooming with white flowers turning quickly to pink.

'Tardiva': a staff favorite, white lacy panicles.

'PeeGee': classic, old fashioned, large shrub or small tree, simply loaded with heavy white flowers. Nice for drying.

'Limelight': Danielle's pick- lime green flowers on 6-8'H x W bushes. Stunning.

### Oakleaf Hydrangeas:

'Snowflake': big white flowers plus stunning burgundy fall foliage, 4-6'H x W.