



The Independent Garden Center Show
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Master Nursery Cooperative to Officially Endorse The Independent Garden Center Show, Navy Pier, Chicago, August 19-21, 2008

CHICAGO – Master Nursery Garden Centers announces its official endorsement of **The Independent Garden Center (IGC) Show – the only national trade show targeted specifically to independent garden centers and their vendors.** The event, produced by *Nursery Retailer* and *Garden Chic* magazines, will present its second annual show at **Navy Pier in Chicago, August 19-21, 2008.**

“The IGC Show is all about independents,” says Bill Jameson, President and CEO of Master Nursery Garden Centers. “The Master Nursery Cooperative is comprised 100% of independent garden centers, therefore, we feel the need to fully support this focused and unique event. Our Board of Directors of 11 IGC retailers voted unanimously to officially endorse the show.”

“We are thrilled to have the support of Master Nursery, such a highly respected force in the IGC sector, representing over 750 retailers. Having its official support is really gratifying to us,” says Jeff Morey, Publisher of *Nursery Retailer* and *Garden Chic* magazines and producer of the show. “We are looking forward to warmly welcoming the group’s members to Chicago next August for IGC 2008.”

Master Nursery also announced it will hold its Summer Board of Directors meeting the day before the opening of the 2008 IGC Show in Chicago.

The first Independent Garden Center Show, held in August 2007, was called a groundbreaking success by retailers and vendors alike. Show organizers report garden center buyers from 49 states (only Alaska was absent) and 10 countries representing 2,293 stores were in attendance at IGC 2007. Total registration was 4,938. Long lines formed at exhibitor booths, where vendors found themselves running out of order forms. At many of the educational sessions, it was standing room only.

Master Nursery Garden Centers, Inc. is the largest national independent garden center organization, comprised of leaders in the retail nursery industry working together to provide the finest plants, garden products and services to its members and their communities. It has over 750 member-owned stores, located in 46 states, with combined annual sales exceeding \$1 billion.

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