

Blackford County will be hosting a Hypertufa program on May 17<sup>th</sup> in Hartford City from 10am-Noon. Cost is \$20, participants will take home a planter trough. This is a messy project, dress accordingly! Reservations now being accepted, fee must be received to be registered, space is limited. Send name and registration fee to Blackford County Extension Office, PO Box 643, Hartford City, IN 47348.

#### What is Hypertufa?

Hypertufa (pronounced hyper-toofa) is a type of artificial stone that is created by mixing sand, peat, and cement. It is much lighter in weight than stone or concrete and very hardy in cold temperatures. It is very popular now in the gardening community as you can make limitless kinds of garden accessories and crafts. For example, hypertufa troughs (planters) are very popular, as is, stepping stones, birdbaths, pedestals, and garden lanterns. You can also make hypertufa castings of objects such as giant leaves. It can be sculpted, hand molded, or molded into a form. It can also be used to make fake rocks and boulders and other decorative accents.