

Three basic landscaping steps

There are three basic steps to home landscaping with trees and shrubs: planning, planting and pruning. When planning, be sure to allow plenty of room for growth. When planting, dig a \$10 hole for a \$5 tree -- the hole should be twice the width of the root ball -- except for heavy clay soil. In clay, dig a hole just large enough to accommodate the root ball so roots adapt to clay immediately. After planting a tree or shrub properly, it's necessary to keep the plant under control by shaping its growth with regular pruning.

Many people are hesitant to trim branches from a tree, or even remove growth that originates from the root system (called "suckers"), according to Bob Tracinski, consumer information specialist at John Deere, a leading manufacturer of lawn and garden products. "Perhaps because they fear that any cutting could kill the tree, they ignore pruning entirely," he said. Experts, however, advise judicious trimming to keep the tree healthy and to protect the lawn under the tree.

Tracinski recommends removing suckers because they drain strength from the main trunk and branch network and because they look messy. Lower branches should be trimmed when the tree is young. By removing lower branches, you eliminate a lawn mowing nuisance and allow more sunlight to reach the grass under the tree.

Tracinski said that lower branches of young trees can be removed easily with a hand pruner or long-handled loppers. But trimming larger branches from an established tree can require a chain saw. The principles of proper tree trimming with a chain saw are these: About six inches, or about 15 cm from the trunk, undercut the branch about 2 to 4 inches, or 5 to 10 cm. This prevents the falling limb from pulling off a long strip of tree bark. Then cut 8 to 10 inches, or 20 to 25 cm,

away from the trunk, cut through the branch from above. This eliminates most of the weight of the branch and helps prevent the falling branch from pulling away a large chunk of heartwood. Now undercut the branch stub near the trunk, but be sure to leave the thick ridge on the trunk so the bark can heal over the wound. Every branch has a bark ridge separating it from the main stem; keep it intact. Finally, cut the stub off from above.

Keeping shrubs under control is a bit more complicated because the pruning technique depends on the variety of shrub or hedge. Pruning shears, similar to large scissors, are not recommended for most trees and shrubs because it destroys the natural shape and beauty of the plant. At each cut end, many new growing points develop that make the plant unnaturally dense, produce small flowers, and cause leaf drop in the interior of the plant that invites insects and disease. Most shrubbery should be controlled with hand pruners.

Deciduous plants are those that lose their leaves every fall. You should prune them to control the size, shape and flowering and to

remove dead, diseased or damaged wood. Individual shrubs that keep their natural size and shape need less pruning than hedges that are trimmed to an artificial shape.



The Halton Youth Theatre Ensemble held the event as a fund raiser. The ensemble performed three skits at the group performed one skit on what Summerfest at Cedarvale Park Aug. 23. The Open Door Drop In Centre

Crime Story, another skit called Old Man and above, the troupe performs Roll Reversal. (Herald photo)

Open Door
drama, music
helps teens
keep drop-in

The rock band Revelations entertained the crowd at Summerfest at Cedarvale Park Aug. 23. The fund raising event was held by the Open Door Drop In Centre. Everyone who attended was treated to free hot dogs and pop. (Herald photo)



Voters' lists revision starts

Revision of voters' lists for Ontario's 34th provincial general election will take place between August 20 and September 9.

Qualified electors who do not receive Form 301 or whose names are not on the list of electors may have their names added during the revision period up to and including the day preceding election day. Not only additions, but corrections and deletions to the preliminary lists of electors, prepared following the door to door enumeration, may also be made at this time.

Sept. 7-14
proclaimed
Literacy
Week

The week of September 7-14 has been proclaimed "Literacy Week in Halton Hills" at the request of the North Halton Literacy Guild.

There is no agreed upon definition of adult illiteracy. However, most Canadian adult educators and teachers accept the UNESCO standard which sets grade 10 as a minimum for achieving literacy in a modern, industrialized nation.



Urban electors must have their names on the list of electors or on a certificate to vote. The Returning Officer or a revision assistant will provide such a certificate to people added to the list following the enumeration period. These electors must present their certificate at their polling place to receive a ballot and vote.

On election day, rural electors not on the list may still vote, provided they are identified and vouched for by another qualified elector who is on the list for that polling division.

Electors whose names are not on the list should contact the Returning Officer in their electoral district. Revisions to the list will be reviewed by the Returning Officer during posted office hours.

The office of the Returning Officer can be easily identified through the display of the Elections Ontario sign.

Elections Ontario advertisements, in daily and weekly newspapers throughout the province, will carry the telephone number of the Returning Officer for each electoral district. Directory Assistance will also be able to provide the appropriate numbers.

Persons eligible to vote in this election must be at least 18 years of age on election day, a Canadian citizen at the time of voting, and a resident of Ontario for at least the six month period prior to the election day. Their names must be on the list of electors or on a certificate to vote for the electoral district where they reside.



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The program consists of four parts: **Management.** A \$300 grant for participation in the Ministry's Farm Management Analysis program. Farm records

must be submitted by May 31, 1988.
Safety. A grant of 80% of the cost of eligible projects designed to make your farm a safer place to live and work.
Repairs. A grant of 50% of the cost of replacement parts for field machinery and farm shop equipment.
Storage. A grant of 40% of the cost of improved grain and feed storage facilities.
This is a one-year, \$50 million program - and applications are now being accepted.
You may have received an application form in the mail. Extra copies may be obtained from your local OMAF office.

Ministry of Agriculture and Food
ONTARIO
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