

Environment

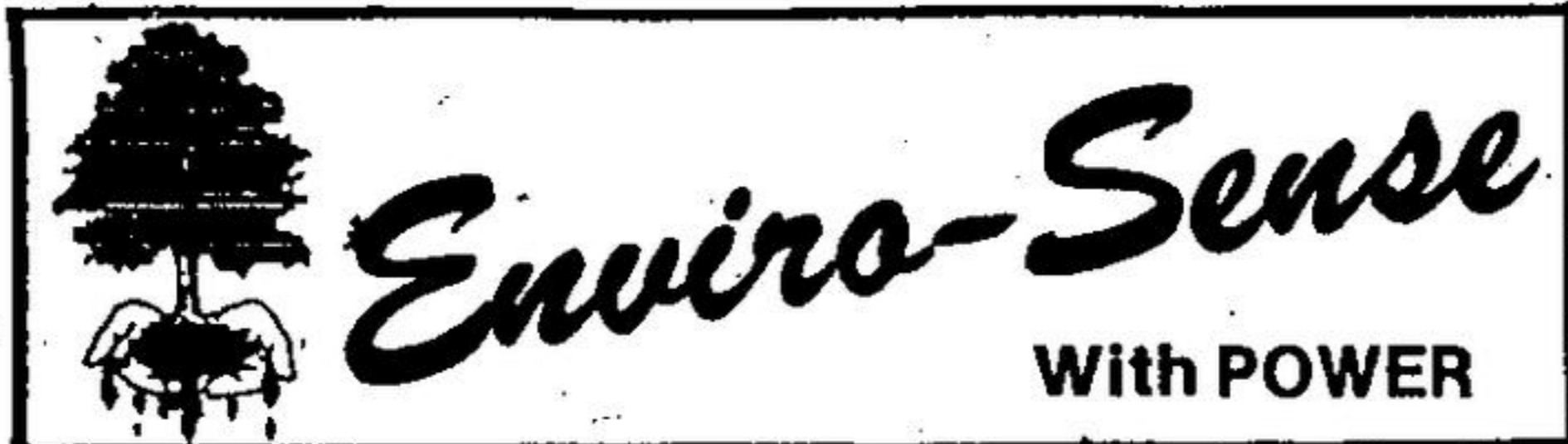
Get involved with Environmental Audit

By BARBARA HALSALL
Environmental Audit

It is not too late to be involved in the Earth Day/Everyday Home Audit. After receiving my copy, I contacted the organizers to see if the audits were still available. The audits take little time and are an easy way to begin the changes we all must make to save our planet.

What follows is part of a press release from Earth Day Canada. YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE! See just how much by phoning for an easy to use audit.

"The primary goal of Earth Day is to educate and empower people to individual action to benefit the environment," says Maury Mason. "We are primarily concerned with giving the public what they need to begin, or to continue, positive activities. From the success of environmen-



tal initiatives, it is evident that Canadians are more than willing to do whatever they can on an individual basis. We have to take into account their varying levels of awareness and their various abilities."

A team of professional environmental writers and auditors, including Marjorie Lamb ("Two Minutes a Day for a Greener Planet") helped Mason design the Earth Day/Everyday Home Audit. The Audit is an individual survey of a household's

everyday environmental habits.

Participants complete the Audit and return it to Earth Day Canada, where the results are tabulated and analyzed. Each participant is then assessed on their environmental activities. Information tailored to their present levels of environmental awareness is returned to them, along with a follow up survey. Participants will be surveyed three times in the first year. The Audit program will help each participating household devise a five year plan to manageably

reduce water and energy consumption, and the output of solid and toxic wastes by significant levels.

The Audit program provides change in manageable increments, with no radical changes in lifestyle. To reinforce public commitment to environmental action, Earth Day Canada will publicize the Audit program's tangible results in terms of solid waste diverted from landfill, amount of energy conserved, and hazardous wastes diverted from the environment.

Earth Day Canada is distributing the Audit nationally. A toll free line, 1-800-263-8799, is now taking orders. Distribution partners and Earth Day coordinators across the country will help distribute 250,000 Earth Day/Everyday Home Audits to Canadian households through to June, 1991.

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Planting a tree is no simple decision

By TOM CAVAN
Thoughts on Trees

When selecting the right tree for your garden you should first think of its purpose. Where in the yard will the tree be best suited for its particular attributes? Go to the site where you plan on planting the tree and dig a test hole if you never dug there before. You must make a judgement call as to the soil structure and how to amend it so the tree will successfully accept its new home. If you are unsure of its structure bring along a handful to the nursery when actually selecting the tree and have a trained gardener help you with the right soil amendments.

If the soil is sandy and rocky (I think most of us can relate to this) you should not use this soil in the preparation soil that will go around the roots. Instead, save this soil for creating a tree water well at the drip-line of the tree for directing water to the roots. If you know your soil is good top soil then one part peat moss, one part black earth, one part existing top-soil with the addition of bonemeal will give you the necessary recipe for successful transplanting. When standing at the proposed sight of planting try to imagine the tree standing there with its leaves rustling in the wind. This may help you find the shape that you're looking for and give you some insight as to how much space you actually have for the head development of the tree.

If the location is open you can think of large specimen trees like Ash, Linden, Locust, Oak, Maple, Poplar and Willow. All of which have their own character and place in the garden. If this tree happens to be near the roadside the choice should be Linden or

Ash because they are resistant to road salt and high exposure.

For a more graceful tree to accent your home you should consider the many Honey Locust varieties available. The Golden Honey Locust with its fine golden leaves or the Skyline Locust with its light green leaves and horizontal branches filtered sun allows the grass to grow thick and green. If its shade you are looking for then the Maples and Oak have to be your first choices. Oak trees are slower growing but they are very attractive and their fall colour is second to none. Oaks are a long lived tree and for that they deserve seniority in my garden.

The most popular tree planted today is without a doubt the Maples. Crimson King Maple is probably the most popular of the family because of its rich red leaf and perfectly, round head which adds colour all summer long. The best Maple to plant is in my mind, a new strain of Norway Maple called Superform Norway Maple. This tree is the strongest of all the Maples I have seen to date and grows a perfectly symmetrical

head without pruning. There are also some new improved strains of the indigenous Red Maple that are stronger and longer lived than the Red Maples of the wild which are now in decline due to the poisoning of our environment. Look for them under common names like October Glory and Red Sunset. Therefore when hunting for a Maple tree check into these other varieties for future investment.

If you are looking for colour and are a little impatient look no further than Golden Weeping Willow and Silver Poplar. It is true that these trees have invasive roots, so you must not plant these trees near anything that may provide trouble in the future such as septic beds, house foundations, pools, or weeping tiles. These two vigorous trees have a place in areas where other trees cannot grow and where you are looking for size but cannot wait. If you plant either one of these trees you will not be disappointed provided you have the

space. Don't plant them within 30' of any potential problem. Now many of you are saying Poplar I thought this guy knew what he was talking about? The Poplar I'm referring to is the Silver Poplar, which in my mind will replace the ever so popular Silver Maple.

The Silver Poplar is a long-lived Poplar with true horizontal branching and good form, it is not one of those rocket shaped varieties that start to deteriorate after 12-15 years. It is a strong tree with a fast growing well shaped head. There are many new variations of the old standard trees like Columnar Oak and Columnar Maple which provide the same leaf style, but with narrow shaped form so you can achieve that rocket shape in a long, lived tree. Next week I will article out medium sized trees that can be utilized for the more diminutive garden.

For more information call the Town Gardener Hotline at 519-833-2117.



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2 P.M. MONDAY JUNE 3, 1991

PURPOSE:
TO DEVELOP THE HIGH SCHOOL'S GROWTH PLAN FOR THE 1991/92 SCHOOL YEAR

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BOARD CHAIRPERSON

MR. B. DAVIES
PRINCIPAL