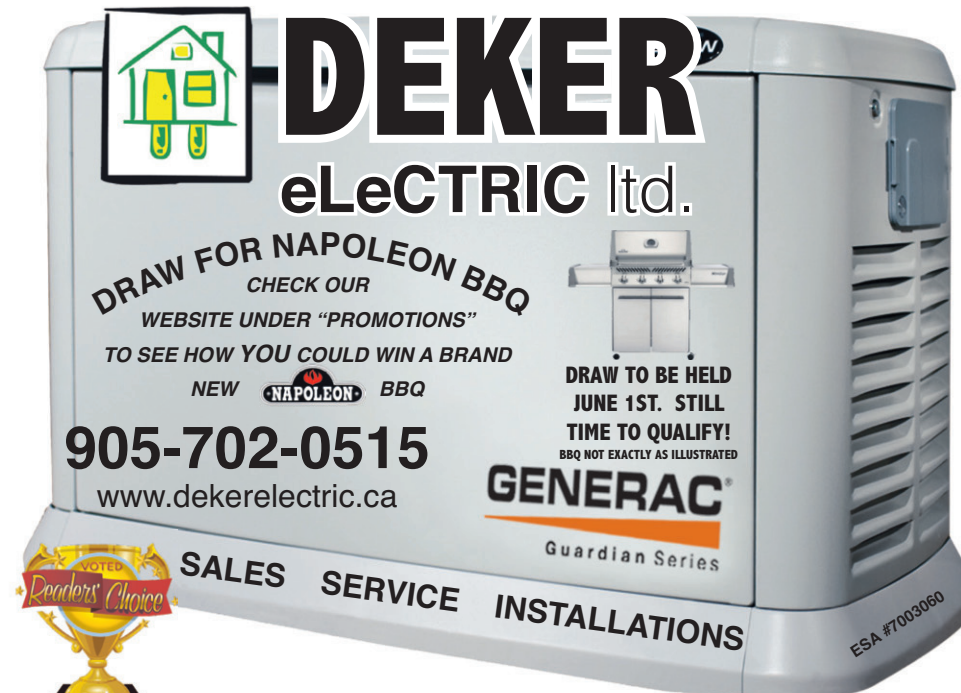# Boost your curb appeal with colourful container gardens

Container gardens have a power all their own when it comes to improving the value of a house. Better still, they are versatile and easy to create.

Choose containers that are light-weight and easy to relocate. A light-weight plastic pot designed to look like stone or ceramic is a great choice, as you may find your planter will do better in one spot than another. Test a few locations. But be sure to drill a few holes for drainage on the base of the pot should none exist. Terracotta pots are a great choice too, as they drain well, but when large, they could be more difficult to relocate. Coco-matting can be purchased by the foot or yard and cut and shaped to insert in any decorative iron hanging or railing holders. Use a light-weight good quality potting soil. Garden soil is too heavy and may contain unwanted seeds and contaminants.

Design your planter using the rule of threes. 1. Choose one taller or texturally interesting plant for the centre or back of your planter; 2. Choose one fuller plant that will spread within the pot without overhanging; 3. Complete your design with a plant variety that will trail over the side of the planter.

Choose plants that have similar growing potential. Mixing a sweet potato vine, for example, with a less robust plant such as impatiens, may cause the later to be overtaken.