



GETTING THE DIRT: Acton Fall Fair members were dishing out the dirt at the Horticultural Sale on Saturday. Selling their 'black gold' were Bart Clark and Hank Walsma to customers Bill and Gwen Robson. — Angela Tyler photo

Black Gold compost sale aids Agricultural Society coffers

The fourth annual compost sale by the Acton Agricultural Society was such a big success that organizers are now considering getting one more truck load of compost for the 2003 sale — that would be a total of over 60 yards of rich, black compost.

Organizer Jim Pink, 2nd vice president of the Acton Agricultural Society, la-

mented that "it's difficult to have to turn people away because we've run out, so next year we'll do our best to get an extra truck load."

The sale is run entirely by volunteers, which includes the loan of a roll-off truck to collect the compost and many hours of volunteer time spent delivering the compost

around Acton and surrounding area. Appreciation is also extended to Acton businessman Len Tuitman, who sets aside an area of his property for dumping the compost, which allows volunteers lots of room to bag.

All proceeds from the Black Gold sale go towards the building fund.

SPRING HOME & GARDEN GUIDE

Simple Touches to Give Your Home a Spring Makeover

It's that season again, a time when the trusty paintbrush, level, hammer and drill are taken out of hibernation. Long gone are the days of holiday hustle and bustle, and warmer weather breathes renewed energy into cabin-crazed homeowners.

Spring offers the ideal time to embark on a home-improvement project, and some go all out with major renovations. Others are looking for smaller touches that will give their home a new look. Here are some simple tips on decorative ideas that won't take much time but will have a big impact:

*** Say it with color** — Nothing can transform a room or the outside of a home faster than a change of paint color or a dramatic decorative accent, like bed linens in a bold shade. Also, neutral

colored walls can be paired with several different colored accessories to change the look of a room upon a whim.

*** Create a focal point** — A room without a focal point can look bland or too busy. Choose a central item, like a painting, piece of furniture or interesting wall covering to tie the room together.

*** Scour the flea markets and garage sales** — You never know what little treasure you will discover at local flea markets and tag sales. A few inexpensive items like antique vases, picture frames with patina or quirky knick knacks can add a cozy charm to your home.

*** Make a splash with pattern** — Dress up a bed with a plaid quilt, turn a hallway into a decorative masterpiece with sponge-painting on the walls and investigate floral toiles

on everything from curtains to chair covers.

*** Look to resources for inspiration** — Consult home decorating magazines, your local newspaper, cable programming and more for clever ideas you may never have thought to consider.

*** Avoid the clutter** — One of the easiest ways to give a room a new look is to ensure that it is neat and orderly. Invest in attractive storage units, shelving, armoires and toy chests to keep the mess at bay.



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