

Think Spring...

It will pay off in the summer

Now's the time for ground work

This article is provided by local Realtors and the Ontario Real Estate Association (OREA) for the benefit of consumers in the real estate market.

The days are getting longer, the weather's warming up and city and country gardeners alike are just itching to get out there.

Now is a good time to do some ground work, so to speak, to prepare your lawn, flower beds and garden for the months ahead. The hard work you put into your yard now will pay off handsomely when summer's really here.

The months of April and May are the best ones to give your lawn its first fertilizing of the year. You may not be looking for a golf-green effect with your lawn, but you do want one that can take a pounding from kids, toys, pets and lawn furniture, and that will show off your garden to its best advantage.

A fast-acting fertilizer will green up your lawn before you know it, but it might not stand the test of time. And the grass could become dependent on fast fixes of fertilizer and develop a "lazy" root system that can't survive without them. A slow-release fertilizer containing sulphur-coated urea or natural-source nitrogen is a good bet for long-lasting results.

A good-looking lawn needs three main nutrients - nitrogen to make it green, phosphorous for healthy roots and potassium for hardiness. At this time of year you can get your lawn off to a strong start with a formula like 21-7-7 applied at 2 kg/100 sq. m. If you make two applications about six to eight weeks apart you will reduce the danger of burning your lawn.

Dethatching will take care of the matting caused by grass rhizomes that grow out of grass plants to start new ones every inch or so. The problem with thatch is it can make it difficult for air, water and fertilizers to reach the roots, and can also encourage insects and

disease.

You can dethatch with a rake, or rent a dethatching machine that cuts through the thick mat and lifts bits and pieces of it to the surface. Experts recommend this process be done only once every three to five years.

If you're counting on a glorious display of colour from your annual or perennial flower beds, start working the soil now. It should be substantial enough to support large plants, yet light enough to allow roots to make their way downwards. It needs to be able to hold moisture, but avoid becoming waterlogged.

Regular additions of organic materials such as peat, old compost from plant material and manure will improve the soil's consistency by creating air pockets, which help the soil retain water and oxygen and preventing the soil's tendency to pack down.

Spring is generally not the best time to plant young trees because most are dormant only until very early in the season and planting can be traumatic. If you have to do it now, choose one in a fibre pot that can go straight into the ground, lessening the likelihood of transplant shock and damage to tender roots. New trees over two feet tall should be staked for at least the first year.

Summer-flowering vines do well if they've pruned vigorously in early spring, and spring-flowering shrubs like azalea, lilac and clematis can be pruned immediately after they've bloomed to give them a whole summer to develop next season's flower buds.

It can be daunting to look out on a bare, brown garden at this time of year and wonder what the summer will bring, but inspiration aplenty can be found in gardening magazines and seed catalogues, at flower and garden shows and at local nurseries, where staff will be more than willing to answer your gardening queries.

ASSOCIATE TAX CONSULTANTS
TAX RETURNS
 Same Day Service
 101 Guelph St., Georgetown
877-2217

WATCH FOR THE
1997 SPRING
HOME LAWN &
GARDEN SPECIAL
SECTION ON
WEDNESDAY
APRIL 9/97
IN YOUR

The Independent & Free Press

THE CHIROPRACTIC LIFESTYLE



Dr. Garry S. Butwell, B.S., D.C.
 Chiropractor

Have you heard the news? We are re-locating our office! With much appreciation for continued support from our patients, our practice continues to grow. Chiropractic is helping literally thousands of people in our town every year. My assistant in the office, Janice, and I are proud to be part of this. We are anxious to adjust our patients from the new office in the Mountainview Plaza, Georgetown, beginning on April 21st. The office is located on the ground level.

I am very confident with this big step. This is due in part to the valuable experience that I have gained through an associateship with Dr. Bob Cranfield. I am extending a very sincere thank you to Bob and his wonderful assistants who have helped me. Thank you Mary, Tina, Kenda and Debbie.

So look for our sign to be up shortly in the Mountainview Plaza. April 21st is day one in this location. See you there!

518 Guelph Street, P.O. Box 9,
 Norval, Ontario L0P 1K0
 (905) 877-9159

NOW OPEN!
 Summer has officially started at Sammy's
8 EDWARD ST., GEORGETOWN

Mirasol Spanish Services present:
The Spring Program:

Levels 1, 2 & 3 to be offered from April 15 - July 9, 1997
 in Georgetown's Carretal Building.
 Come to a free lesson and orientation night on April 10th!
 For information & registration, call 873-7140.

HIGHLAND DANCING
 10 Week Trial Session
 Begins week of April 7th.
 Ages 4 & up.
 Call Sharon Casey B.A.T.D.
877-4233
 for more information

Milliere
 T.V. SALES and SERVICE
 We Service What We Sell
 14 WESLEYAN STREET
 Downtown Georgetown Just off Main Street,
 Closed Sundays
 Phone **877-3405**

ZENITH
 The Quality Goes In Before The Name Goes On®
COME AND SEE ALL OUR IN-STORE SPECIALS!

VCR Remote Control Model VR4206HF

4 HEAD HI-FI VCR

- Stereo Hi-Fi with Built-In MTS Stereo Decoder
- 4-Head HQ Double Azimuth Video System
- English/Spanish/French On-Screen Programming
- 1 Year, 8 Event Timer •Automatic Digital Picture Tracking
- Automatic Head Cleaner •181 Channel Tuning Capability

Before you buy, check out our extra **LOW, LOW PRICES!**

SPECIAL **\$329⁹⁵**

Model SY2551S
25" STEREO COLOUR T.V.

- High contrast picture tube
- Caption Vision
- Stereo Receiver/Monitor
- Trilingual On-Screen Displays
- Auto Channel Program
- 181 Channel Tuning Capability
- Multi-Purpose Timer

Now ONLY **\$469⁹⁵**

Fully Function Remote Control

27" STEREO COLOUR T.V.
 Same Features as 25" Model
 Now ONLY **\$569⁹⁵**
 Model SY2751