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Gardening math made easy

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First, we must convert all the numbers into same type of measurement.

5 inches= 0.417 ft.

Now we can add our measurements' into the equation.

Length x Width X Depth = Volume of soil we need.

10 ft. x 5 ft. x 0.417 ft. = 20.85 cubic ft. Soil is sold in bulk by the cubic yard or in bags by kilo. Convert the 20.85 cubic ft into the appropriate measurement. With this information, you can compare prices too.

Area equations are used in gardening when determining how many plants, sod, seed, or fertilizer an area needs.

How many rolls of sod will I need to sod a rectangular area 10 ft long and 5 ft wide?

Add our numbers into the equation. Length x Width = Area of sod needed 10ft x 5ft = 50 square ft

The area of one roll of sod is 8 square ft. 50 square ft / 8 square ft = 6.25 rolls of sod, or 7 rolls of sod needed.

To plan your garden before spring, you must consider more than just choosing the prettiest flowers or most delicious vegetables. Draw a small sketch of the yard with measurements. You can use this plan to decide how many flowers, vegetables, seed, fertilizer, soil, stone, wood, fencing, water, and the list goes on— you will need. Know this before you go to the garden centre, and have fun shopping!

—By Cecilia White, CW Horticulture Georgetown

Go solar on your pool and save money

Jid you know that there are something like 600,000 backyard swimming pools in Canada? And that Canadians spend more than \$20-million a year on non-renewable fuels such as natural gas, propane, oil and electricity to heat these pools?

Given the ever-rising price of non-renewable fuels, the cost to heat a swimming pool is, today, more expensive than ever.

Conventional swimming pool heating systems can swallow up to as much as 60 percent of summer time utility bills. Thankfully there is an economical alternative that can cut these energy costs—solar heating. It's simple and reliable, and has been used by pool owners for years. The initial cost of solar equipment is reason-

able, and the operational savings are high. After that, your energy savings continue for the life of the system. Plus, by replacing or reducing the use of conventional pool heaters, solar heaters help the environment by reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide, that are responsible for the change in our climate.

Solar energy offers a practical and economical way to heat your pool, extend your swimming season, and increase your swimming comfort. For more information on how you can use the sunshine to heat your pool, call toll-free 1-800-387-2000 or visit:

http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/es/erb/reed on the Internet.

—News Canada

\$ 499

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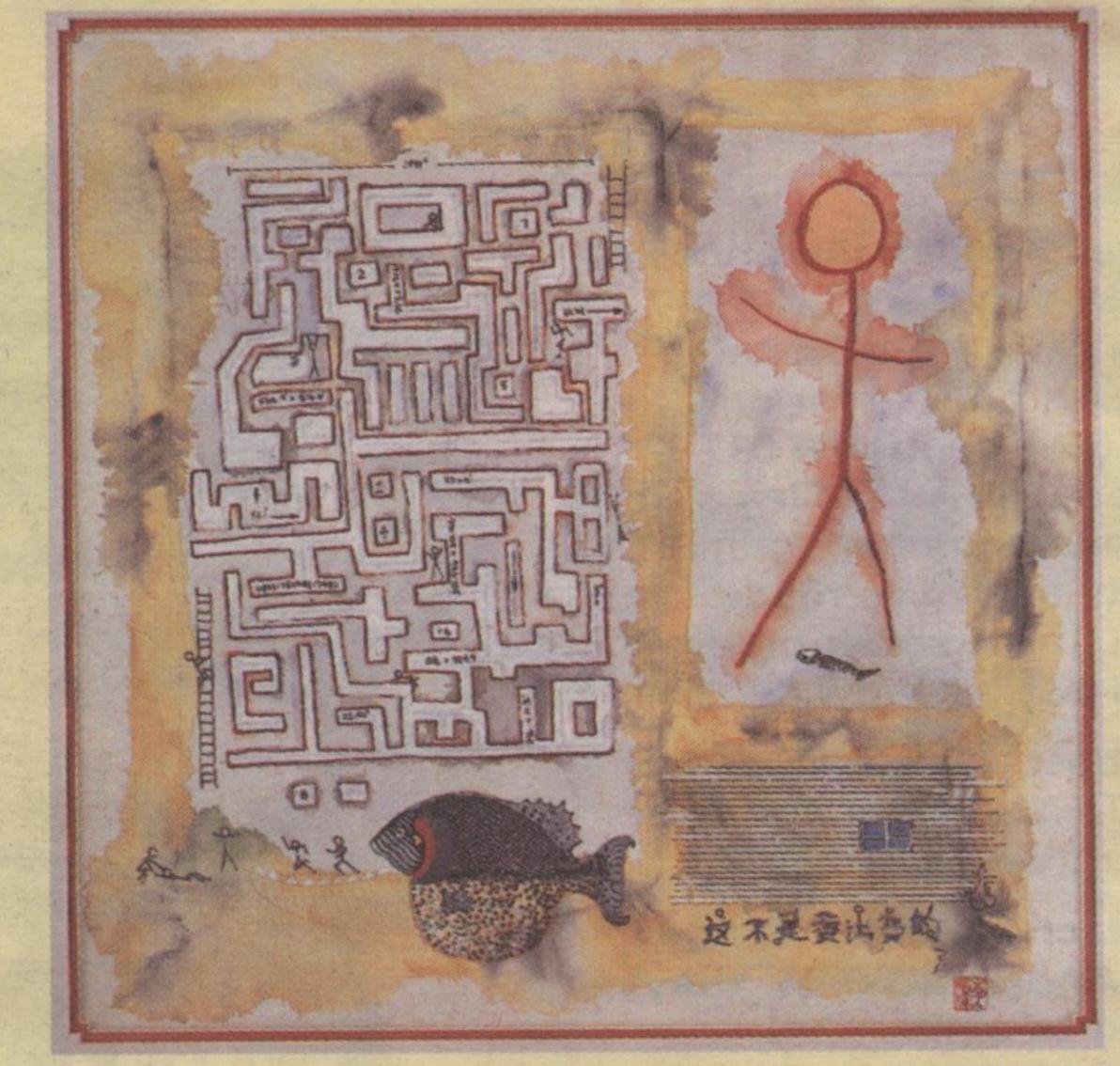
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Provides horticultural counseling services to help you achieve your horticultural goals.

Cecilia White, a Canadian Certified Horticultural Technician with an Associated Diploma in Agriculture and Horticulture has provided solutions to a myriad of horticultural changes in households and businesses for the past ten years.

For more information or a personal consultation:

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