

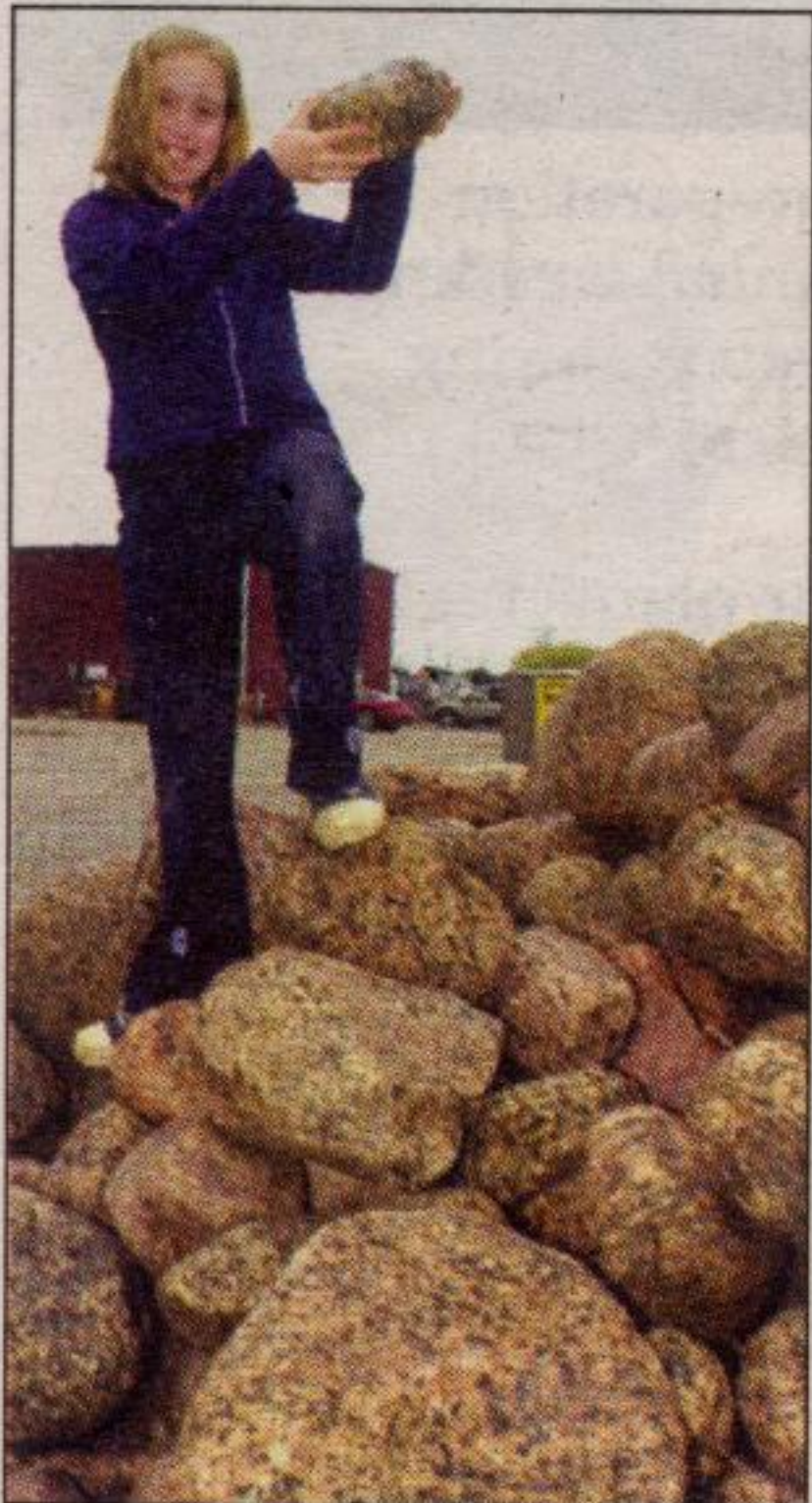
Harwood's offers wide variety of landscaping needs

Continued from pg. 1

act as a natural bug repellent. With all the bans on chemicals, it's nice to be able to use the natural solutions."

If one purchases a load of any material, from mulch to large river stones, Harwood's are quite versatile on their delivery methods. They will load the customer's truck or trailer right on the spot, or arrange to deliver it to their site within 48 hours, often the same day.

"We can deliver two types of soil at one time," adds Grace, "So there is only one delivery charge."

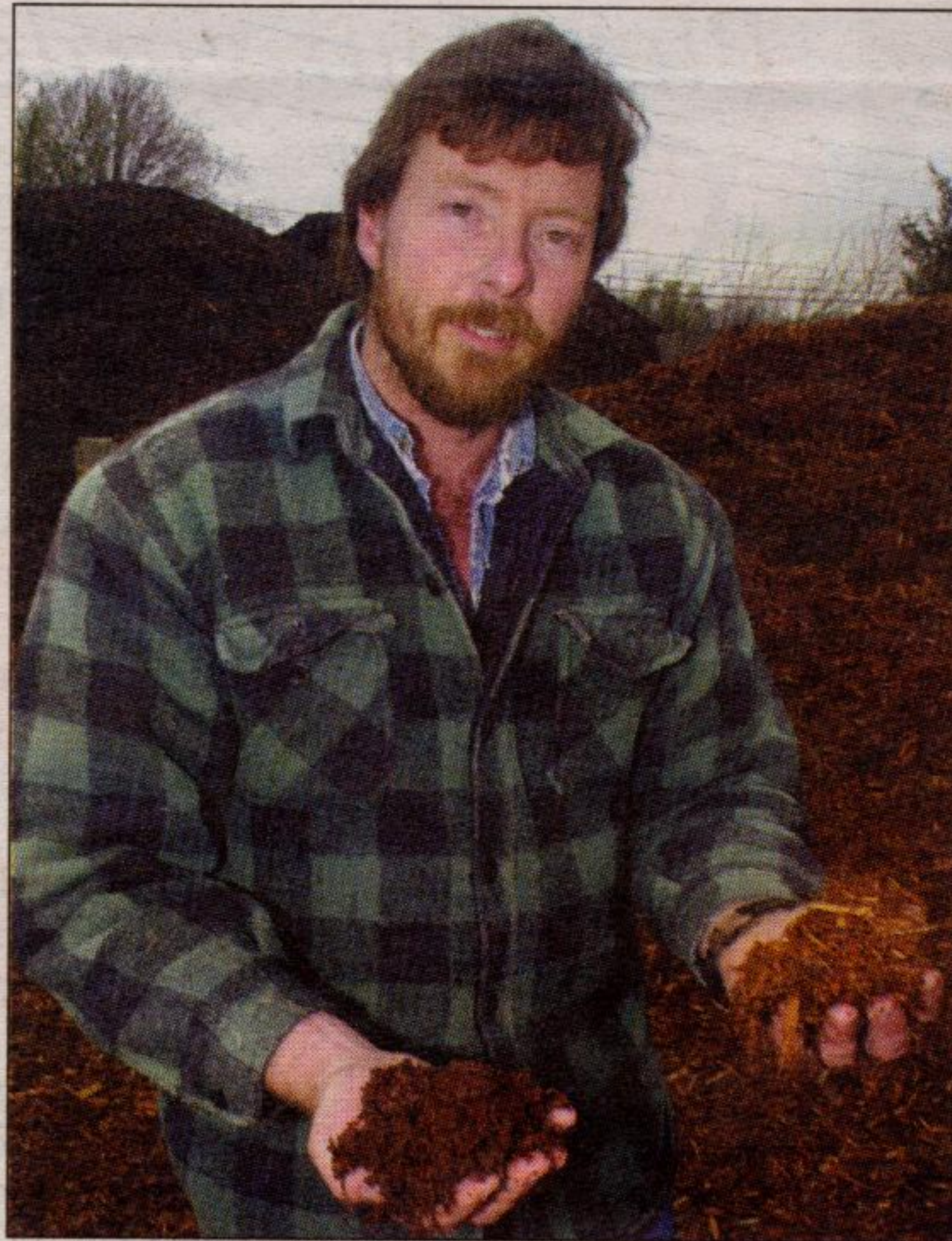


Melissa Harwood, 9, shows off some of the decorative river stones available at her parents' Steeles Avenue business.

They deliver as far out as Erin and Etobicoke, and lots of local deliveries in the Halton Hills and Milton areas.

"We are the only outlet of our kind in this area," says Grace, "And we maintain very high quality products to keep our customers satisfied. It's nice to be complimented on the quality of our products. That's important to us."

Harwood's also stock a complete



Todd Harwood displays two different types of mulch, with the B.C. cedar mulch in his left hand and the darker auburn mist mulch in his right. Photos by Ted Brown

line of garden tools, equipment and lawn and garden furniture and statues. Water fountains and bird baths are on display at their outlet to give customers an idea of how the ornaments will look when set up in their gardens.

In addition, bulk grass seed and fertilizers are available to keep the garden project looking good and green after all the heavy work is done. They even carry materials to build retaining walls and garden ponds.

Harwood's is open Monday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m., during seasonal hours, but Grace admits they often stay until the last customer goes home.

For more information, call Harwood's at (905) 873-1900.

—By Ted Brown, staff writer

Canadian Tire provides tips on container gardening

Gardening is one of Canada's fastest-growing outdoor leisure activities. It provides a sense of personal satisfaction and pride, not to mention the benefits of physical activity. This year's hot new trend and perfect solution for homes with limited outdoor space, such as apartment and condominium balconies and houses with small backyards, is 'container gardening'.

To help you get started on your own container garden, the gardening team at Canadian Tire offers the following unique ideas:

- To keep the garden current with seasonal themes, change the plants with the seasons. Try: Spring - Tulips, pansies and pussy willows

- Summer - mixture of annuals
- Fall - chrysanthemums, kale, fall pansies

- Buy a couple of extra containers for children to use as their very own first garden.

- Plant an herb garden for a constant supply of fresh herbs. Basil, chives, parsley, marjoram and thyme are all easy to grow in containers.

- For apartment patios or cottage decks, try growing a vegetable container garden. Small

vegetables will grow in pots as small as 5-inches deep.

- For weddings, birthday parties or any other special events, create special containers to use as center pieces.

To ensure that your container garden thrives all summer long, here are some useful tips:

- Use potting mix rather than soil. The additional ingredients such as peat moss and vermiculite allow rapid drainage making it nearly impossible to over water, and still holds sufficient water for plant growth.

- Water frequently. Closely spaced plants packed into a small volume of soil means water is quickly lost. Daily watering will be necessary during hot periods.

- Replace fertilizer regularly. Fertilizing is the key for best results and should be done on a regular basis.

- Prune and groom. To keep plants looking lush and full, prune leggy stems back to buds or branches and remove off-coloured, damaged foliage or dead blooms.

- Rotate containers so that all sides get an adequate amount of sunlight to encourage plants to grow evenly.

—News Canada

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