

# What happens to your household plants while you are on vacation?

Summer's just around the corner and the question arises again about the vacation care of houseplants.

If you are going to be absent for three or four days, don't worry. Water thoroughly and group plants in indirect light in a cool room. If desired, place them on moist pebble trays so the evaporating water provides humidity.

If you plan on being away for two weeks and it is not possible to have a plant sitter, help plants tend themselves by enclosing them in clear plastic food bags. This simple and inexpensive method should conserve moisture for a few weeks.

Before bagging, take prompt action against any residing insects, remove flower buds and flowers, cut away leaves in poor condition, water well and discard drainage.

To prevent the bag from resting on foliage, push three or four stakes (pencils, swizzel sticks or chopsticks) or insert a U piece of wire into the edges of the soil. Drape the plastic over the props and tie the bag around the pot rim with string or elastic band. If the plant is large, cover it with a clear drycleaning bag and fold the bag securely under the pot bottom.

It's important to help the occupants in these plastic "greenhouses" beat the heat so place them in a cool spot out of direct sun. Upon arrival home, desensitize them by opening up the bag for 24 hours before removal.

Another alternative is a Planthouse, a clear plastic umbrella terrarium that sits nicely on a table.


This dandy helpmate has an aluminum frame with a zipper for easy access. No assembly is required and it conveniently folds up like an umbrella until needed again.

**Helpful Hints**  
Stick twiggy branches in the

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**Green N' Growing**  
*Elaine Gordon*



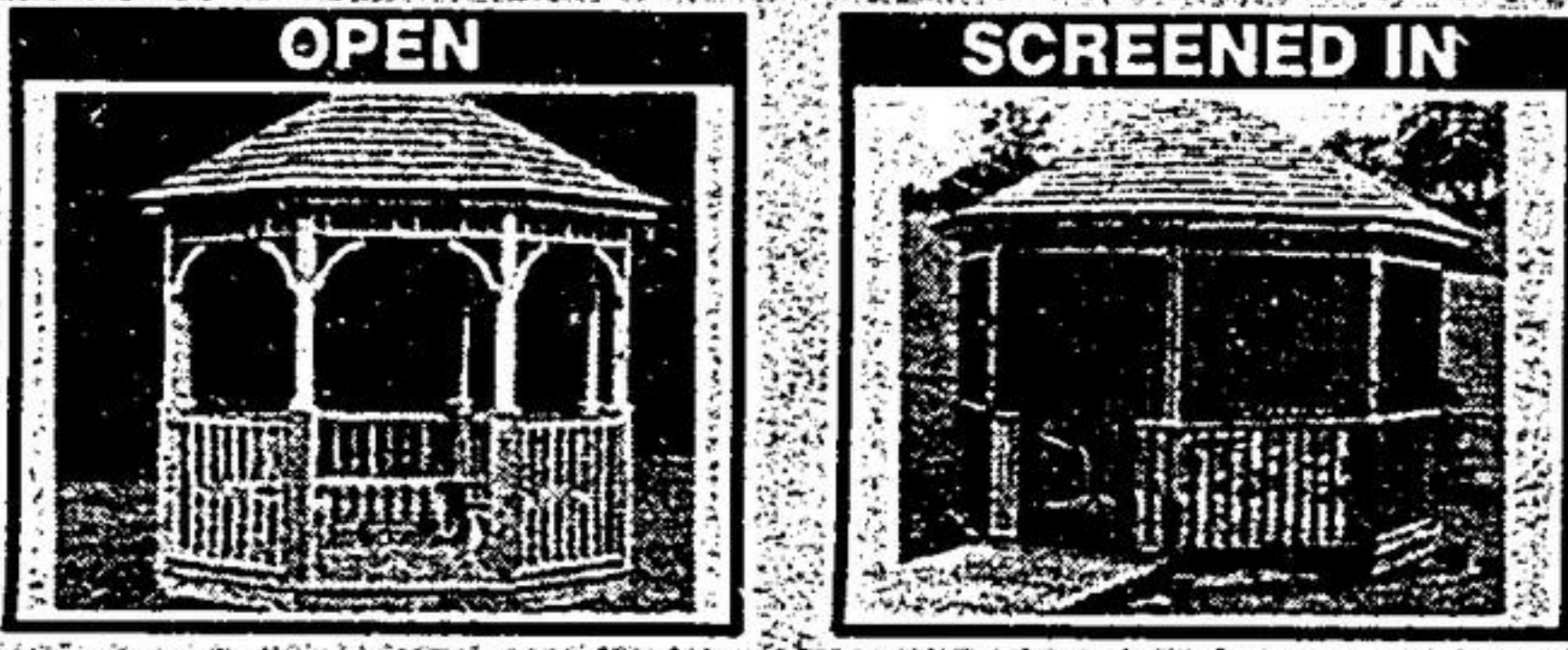
earth to support sprawling outdoor plants and as the plants grow, their foliage will hide the twigs.  
Or, recycle an expanding, slim curtain rod as a tall plant support and extend accordingly as the plant grows.  
A metal hook screwed into the end of a broom handle becomes a nifty tool for pulling down tall branches when pruning is required.

**Little Things**  
**CORRECTION NOTICE**  
The "Little Things" ad which appeared in the Markham Economist on Saturday, June 6, 1987 was incorrect. The ad which should have appeared was the "Year End Clearance Sale", which took place Mon., June 8th Thurs. June 11th and not on Sun. & Mon., June 7th and 8th, as the ad stated.  
For your convenience, "Little Things" will extend this special year end sale from Mon., June 15 - Thurs., June 18th, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
The Markham Economist regrets any inconvenience this error may have caused "Little Things" or their valued customers.

**Little Things CHILDREN'S CLOTHING WAREHOUSE**  
**GIGANTIC SEASON-END CLEARANCE SALE**  
MONDAY - THURSDAY 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
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EVERY ITEM IN OUR WAREHOUSE WILL BE ON SALE. A COMPLETE ASSORTMENT OF KIDS CLOTHING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS. SIZES NEWBORN-16  
80 West Beaver Creek Rd.  
Unit No. 8 733-4518  
Mon., June 15th  
Thurs., June 18th  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
No personal cheques.

**THE YORK REGION BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
is requesting information to assist in the restoration of the Buttonville School (Markham SS No. 5). An educational museum is planned for that building.  
Old photographs of the original interior are needed - for loan or copy - to assist in the restoration of the school.  
If you have photographs or other helpful information,  
1. send them to The York Region Board of Education, Box 40, 60 Wellington Street West, Aurora, L4G 3H2. Photographs will be copied and returned.  
OR  
2. visit the Buttonville School (Woodbine Avenue, North of Hwy. 7) on Sunday, June 21, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Photos will be copied while you are at the school.  
For further details, contact Margaret Brevik, 889-0660 or 887-5931.  
R. A. Cressman  
Director of Education  
Charles Cooper  
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