

Interesting branches ideal for winter planters



Let's Get Growing

Marjorie Mason Hogue

We have been able to enjoy our gardens well into November this year. Some people even have annuals blooming in sheltered spots. Late flowering asters and

colchicums are still bravely putting on a show.

When your annual containers are finished, remove the plants and soil to the compost pile and store the empty pots.

Large containers which are too heavy to move can be transformed into a winter arrangement. Cut evergreen branches (spruce, pine, hemlock, juniper, yew, cedar) will hold their needles all winter outdoors.

Branches of mahonia (Oregon grape) and euonymus will supply broadleafed beauty.

Branches with interesting or colourful bark (birch, dogwood, kerria, burning bush, golden elder) and branches with interesting fruit seedpods or persistent leaves (sumac, highbush cranberry, rugosa roses, beech) will make interesting additions to your design.

Moss and fungi from the woods can be used as a soil-cover. The finishing touch is floral seed pods and ornamental grasses.

As soon as the soil in perennial containers has frozen, they should be stored in a dark, unheated garage. Water them well before freeze-up. Your aim will be to keep them frozen for the winter.

Collect the clippings from the last lawn mowing. The combination of lush grass and dry leaves is the perfect finish to this year's compost pile.

Clean and sharpen your lawnmower and all other tools before storing them away.

Nothing brightens a winter garden better than the many birds which congregate for a good meal.

The small black oil sunflowers are the favourite food for our visitors — 10 to 12 different species arrive daily.

The feeder I enjoy the most is a simple birch log about

18 inches long. It has been drilled with holes measuring 1-inch wide by half an inch deep. These are filled with the small sunflower seeds coated with just enough peanut butter to make them stick together.

I hang it from the hanging basket hook in front of my kitchen window. Chickadees, nuthatches and woodpeckers wait in line at this feeder.

The most amusing incident last year was watching a starling trying to copy the upside-down approach of the nuthatch!

Angie Andruss inquired if there was a book strictly on peonies.

The newest member of "The Gardener's Guide to Growing" series is entitled "Peonies."

It is written by Martin Page and published by Timber Press. It follows the same format as the other books in the series — Hardy Geraniums, Hostas, Hellebores, Lilies, Ivies, Irises and Fritillaries — dealing with history, botanical classification, culture, pests, listing all known cultivars and featuring excellent colour photographs. It also gives addresses of societies where you can obtain further information.

Contact the Canadian Peony Society at 1246 Donlea Cr., Oakville, Ont. L6J 1V7, (416) 845-5380.

You may have to ask for this at your favourite bookstore as it's just been released.

Gardening question? Drop us a line

Send your questions and comments to:
Marjorie Mason Hogue
c/o Uxbridge Tribune
88 Brock St. West
Uxbridge, Ontario
L9P 1R4

DON'T GET LEFT OUT IN THE COLD!

Save \$\$\$ on your Heating Bill with:

DIAMOND 90° Mid and High Efficiency residential furnaces

YORK
Heating and Air Conditioning
Leaders in Home Comfort Innovation Since 1874

Ask about our 10 years parts & labour warranty!

Ask about our Rental Furnaces!

DIAMOND 80°

FLETCHER HEATING LTD.
SHOWROOM
137 Centre St. E., Richmond Hill
Serving York Region for over 25 years

Richmond Hill (905) 884-8265
Toronto (416) 798-7598
Newmarket (905) 853-6981

\$2.00 off admission for you and each friend with you to Canada's original **COUNTRY DECORATING COLLECTIBLES SHOW & SALE** featuring HEIRLOOMS ARTS & CRAFTS TREASURES

Free Parking • Door Prizes • Entertainment

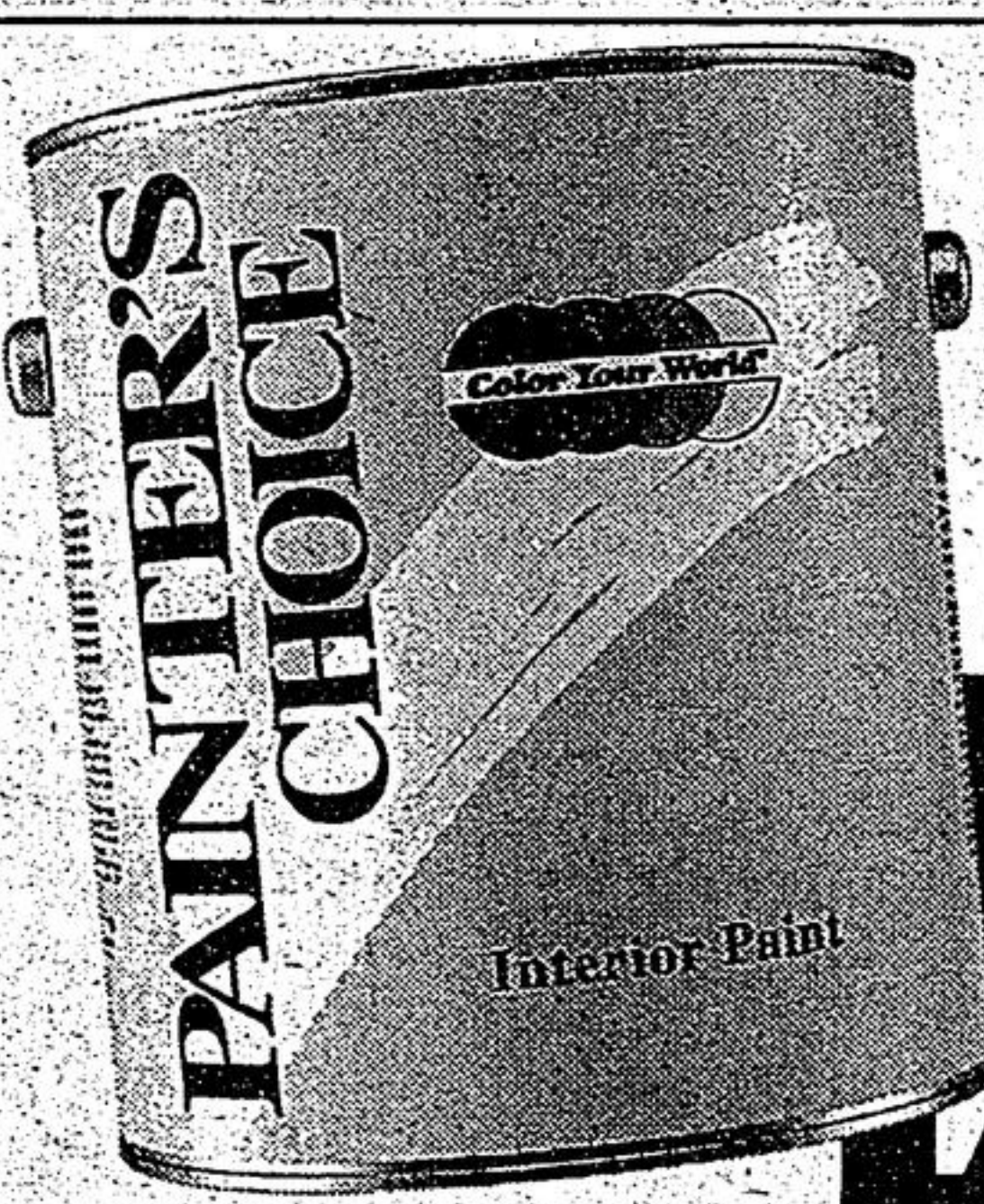
Friday 10-9
Sat. & Sun. 10-5

MARKHAM FAIRGROUNDS
McCowan Road
7 Km. North of Hwy. 7

NOV. 14-16

This Weekend Plan To Attend York Regions Most Popular Country Decorating & Collectables Show & Sale

Bring this coupon and receive \$2.00 OFF your ticket



Save up to **33%** On Selected **Paint**

SAVE 33%

Painter's Choice® Semi-gloss Latex (8200)
•Tough scrubbable semi-gloss finish •High hiding •No roller spatter •Available in 100's of pastel colors

19⁹⁶
3.78L
*Reg. low price 29.96

SAVE 25%

Alkyd Melamine Finish (5440)
•High hiding
•Ideal for arborite and formica surfaces
•Available in a wide range of decorator colors

27⁷²
3.78L
*Reg. low price 36.96

SAVE 25%

Painter's Choice® Latex Primer (9635)
•High hiding •Ideal for priming new drywall
•Suitable for latex and alkyd finish coats

16⁴⁶
3.78L
*Reg. low price 21.96

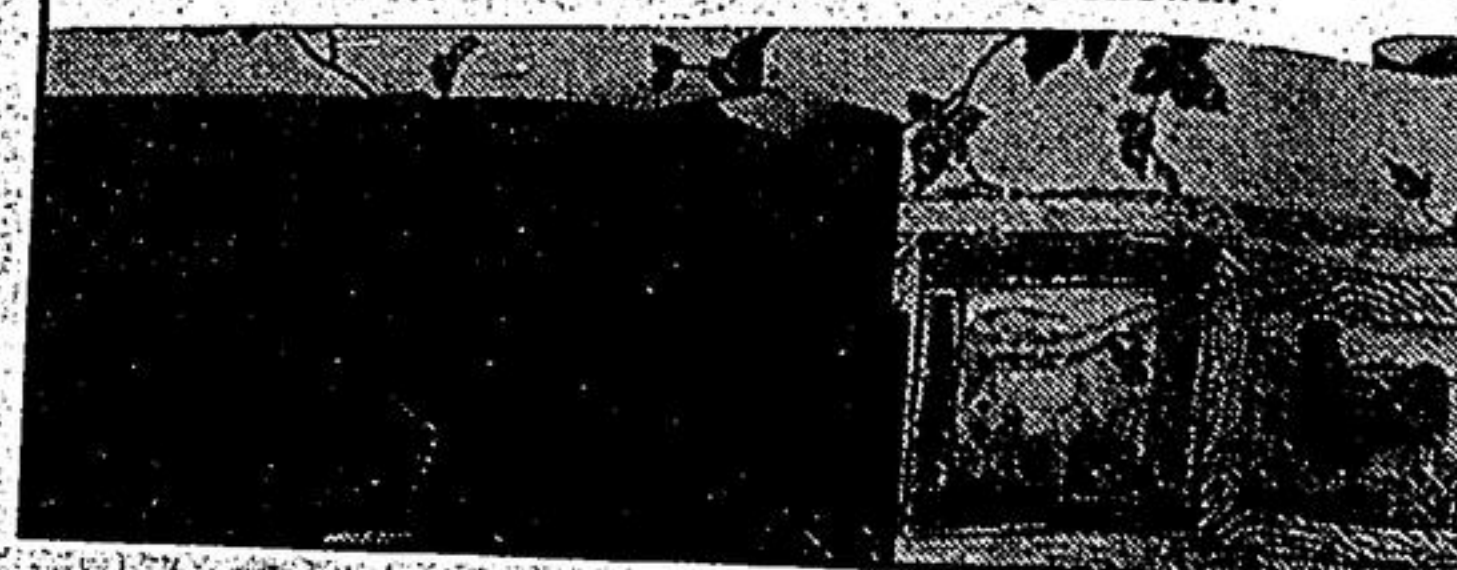
SAVE 25%

Designer's Touch® Eggshell Latex (6100)
•High hiding
•Scrubable low lustre finish
•Available in 100's of pastel decorator colors
•No roller spatter

23⁹⁶
3.78L
*Reg. low price 31.96

In-Stock Wallpaper

NEW ARRIVALS!
The latest fashion colors and designs.
All first quality.
*Patterns may vary from those shown.



LEVOLOR® Heritage

2" & 1" WOOD BLINDS
•Great alternative to wood shutters
•20 colors available
•Worry-free warranty on working components

Starting at **113⁰⁰** 24"x36"

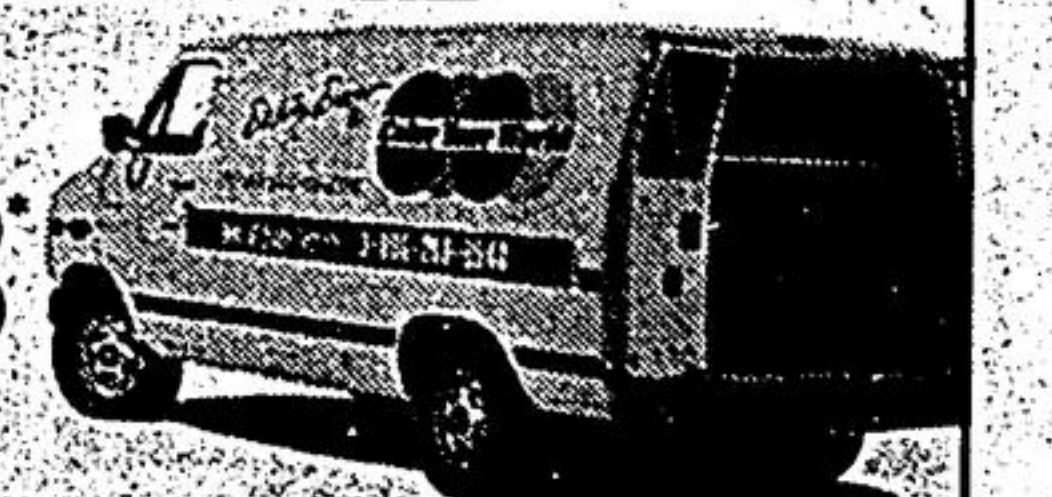
Carpel

Brand New! "CHESTER HILL"

Premium Quality Textured Saxony
NOW!! Underpad and Installation included at one low price!!!

Only **293** Sq. ft.

*Includes underpad and installation on flat surfaces. Some conditions apply. Details in store.



Shop At Home For Carpet & Window Blinds 1-800-299-9940

5261 Highway #7
294-7835