

Wind break helps to conserve



down to earth
**Alice Wessels
Burlingame**

Many times this winter you'll want to control ice on your sidewalks and driveways. The white pellets you can secure in the bag are ideal because they don't harm the grass. Experience has shown your columnist that a bag in the car can easily get you out of a predicament when scattered around the ice under the rear wheels. Sand can help you out but it

doesn't melt the snow and it can be tracked into the house. This is the time of year when dedicated gardeners mark up garden catalogs and plan for the ultimate garden. Have you a place on your house or garage for a showy window box? They surely flatter a home. For the home carpenter, here are some hints to spell success. Plan on a window box 10 inches

deep and 10 inches wide with one drainage hole for every 8 inches. The wise carpenter uses screws instead of nails so the pressure of the soil and roots won't weaken the construction. A good soil mix for a planter is two parts garden loam and one part peat moss. After the box is planted it is a good idea to mulch with peat moss to cut down on watering needs. Many people prefer to place the plants within the window box in flower pots, then mulch around the pots. Here are some ideas for plants to use. Geraniums and ivy always look good. Seed geraniums with a heavy flowering history are coming on the market. A window box with three kinds of coleus can be effective, especially if one of the coleus plants is yellow.

A WINDOW BOX of cascading petunias provides a ready made beauty spot. You will want one half to three quarters of the day in sun. With limited sun you can have excellent luck with impatiens and ivy spilling over the rim of the box.

Other suggestions for window box fillers are Lantana, verbena, ageratum, nirembergia, lobelia, and some of the new large pansies.

It takes courage to pinch out the top of newly planted flowers in a box so they will branch out. But do it if you want to have a compact mass of color. In the late fall you can place evergreen boughs in the boxes to be decorated with bright balls or Italian lights.

These are best conservation days. You can save 30 percent in the midst on your heat use by planning and planting a windbreak. It should be situated at right angles to the prevailing wind.

Even located 35 to 40 inches from the house it will control snowdrifts on the driveway. As shrubs grow faster than evergreens, a tight row of shrubs on the windward side protects the evergreen and provides quicker control.

Windbreak material is planted close together. Shrubs are planted six inches from center to center. The spacing of the evergreens will depend on their ultimate profile. The tallest plant material should be planted in the center of the pattern.

Through the years Gladys Dibble has been known as an outstanding gardener with her garden developed as medium sized intimate rooms. In 1950 she reported in the American Magazine that the Birmingham Branch of National Farm and Garden staged a successful garden week for the entire town. The population was 11,000 and over 1,000 flowering crabs were sold in a four square mile area.

JFS residence program launched for elderly

Gilbert B. Silverman, president of Jewish Family Service, has announced that residents have moved into the first two apartments rented for the agency's "Group Residences for the Elderly" program.

Currently, one apartment is reserved for men and another for women. Both apartments are in Southfield.

Applications are still being accepted, not only for vacancies and turnover that may occur for these apartments, but for two additional apartments that may be available in February.

Silverman said the project is aimed at senior adults who are unable to manage independent living but who are not so infirm as to need nursing home care.

They have to dress and bath themselves. However, living in an apartment with two other adults provides them opportunity for a companion and mutual support.

By living in these apartments they will be able to remain in the community in a family setting, rather than living in nursing home or institutional settings.

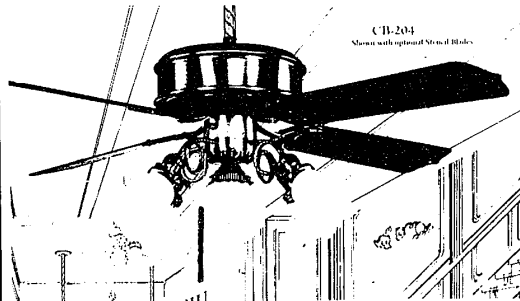
Each apartment has three bedrooms and will be serviced by a part-time homemaker in attendance five days a week.

Marvin C. Daitch, chairman of the housing relocation committee, said the full fee is \$600 a month, but applications will be taken by those who cannot afford to pay the full fee. Where such resources are not available the agency will provide some subsidy for a limited number of residents.

The project is funded in part by a grant from the Jewish Community Foundation of the United Jewish Charities.

This is a three-year experiment to determine whether such apartment living can delay placement of elderly Jewish individuals into nursing homes.

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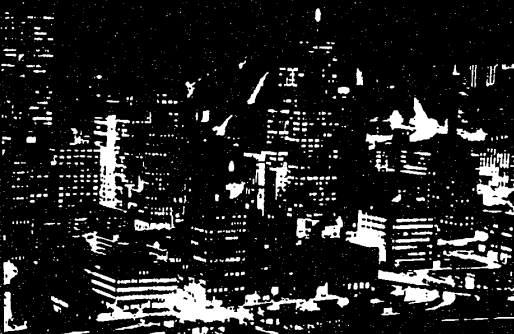
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