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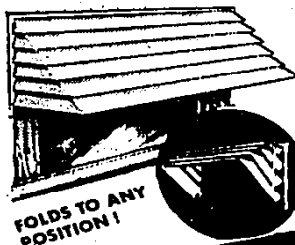


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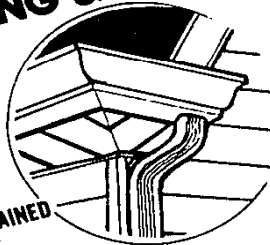
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Sun Control
QUALITY • DISTINCTION

26400 West 8 Mile Road
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Sometimes

By SHERRY KAHAN

The wild flowers that peek up from the hill behind the Adamson house in Livonia are not all there through the work of Mother Nature.

King and Florence Adamson helped a lot. Not always a careful housekeeper, Mother Nature had neglected to control the rampant growth of witchhazel, blackberry branches and a riot of ragweed.

"Once the competing plants were taken out, the wild flowers spread enormously," said Mrs. Adamson. "We protect them. We don't pick them, and we make sure they are surrounded by trees."

"All these plants want sun in the spring before the trees come out. But in summer they have to have shade."

To the evergreens, sugar maples, black oak, ironwood and black cherry trees already over-looking a water runoff ravine running into Bell Creek, the Adamsons made additions. They planted hemlock, white fir, white pine, crabapples and dogwood.

Their bank of the ravine starts to come into its own in April and May. Then the wildflowers already there when the couple moved in in 1947 find their place in the sun. Bloodroot, trillium, spring beauty, adder's tongue and hepatica all

'The ravine was used as a dump. We must have taken a couple tons of junk out of there ...'

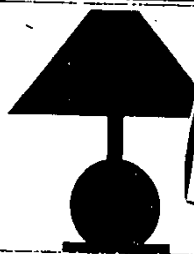
spring up to say hello.

With what the?y Adamsons have contributed, it adds up to 50-60 different varieties of wild flowers and plants.

"Florence likes to keep it as natural as possible," commented Adamson. "She likes to let a branch stay where it falls."

However, she does like to print up the names of many of the flowers, place them on sticks and push them in the ground. In this way those who come for a look have help in identifying the various varieties.

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