

Get a head start on spring jobs

By MARGE ALPERN

To enjoy the crisp sunny days of October and November is reason enough for fall gardening. If needed another reason, it could be that whatever I got done now in the garden gives me a headstart on spring jobs.

But the main reason I love fall gardening is that I prepare the lying things to survive the winter. I have more time to become sensitive to the miracles of growth and survival than I do in the frenzy of spring planting.

The damp and receptive ground, the frequent rains and the sunny days and cool evenings assure every new bulb, transplanted shrub or wildflower of a good beginning. As I plant the tulip bulbs, I sometimes spot the white, brittle new roots or a trillium plant growing in the garden.

This sign of life beneath the surface reassures me that next spring the much loved trilliums that disappeared into the ground in August will again fill my woods with their stately beauty.

Besides bulb planting and transplanting shrubs, there are other garden jobs to be done now. Contrary to popular belief, the latest research indicates that a late fall application of fertilizer can be beneficial to the lawn, trees and shrubs. Although growth on the upper portions of plants has stopped because of the cold, the roots will remain active for some time. Food is taken up and stored in the roots for the initial spring flush of growth.

SPRING ADDITION of fertilizer, no matter how early, will only produce results much later on. Most of the initial growth is from food stores over the winter in the plant tissue.

Specialists of early spring blooming shrubs, such as azaleas and rhododendron, are now strongly recommending a late October or November feeding.

Perhaps, the single most important factor in preventing winter injury or winter kill to established plants is sufficient water in the soil when the first real freeze occurs. Soil water acts as a vital buffer to cold temperatures, as it is essential to water woody plants thoroughly at this time. Mulching shouldn't be placed on plants until after the first or second frost, as it will prevent the water from reaching the roots.

Broad-leaved evergreens need further protective measures so that the sun won't cause desiccation and winter burn of the foliage. Sunshields can be made of burlap on frames, snow fence or reed mats. I prefer using evergreen boughs and laying them on top of the shrubs or else sticking the heavy

branches in the ground and leaning them against the plant.

The temporarily planted evergreen screen looks attractive and stays green throughout the winter. Evergreen boughs are available at the Farmer's Market around Thanksgiving and there really isn't any need for protection before that time. You may get some boughs from your own trimmings.

PROTECTING ROSES is another easy job that ensures a more exciting spring. In our hardiness zone even the most established roses need to be covered. Experiments conducted at Cornell University under the auspices of the American Rose Society have shown that low temperature is the chief factor in the loss of roses.

Mounding or hilling about eight to nine inches of soil around the base of the rose plant is considered the best winter protective measure. Soil, even though frozen, conducts heat from the lower layers of warmer soil and keeps the temperature above the killing point.

After frost but before the ground freezes, clean up the fallen rose leaves and prune away the dead or damaged canes to minimize next year's insect and disease problems. Don't cut the branches until spring.

Later in November or even early in December, cover the soil mounds with evergreen boughs or straw. Leaves can be used but they tend to hold too much water and they definitely should not be used directly on the plants without the soil mound beneath them. I like to use some ground leaves as a mulch and then cover them with a little additional soil so that they won't blow away.

If your rose garden is very exposed, evergreen boughs help to protect the plants from the fierce combination of bright sun and cold winds in March.

Don't be too much of a rust to cover any shrub or plant with straw. If put on too early, it encourages mice and other rodents to move in and they will chew on the stems.

The last flower to bloom in my garden is always the same one, an old-fashioned single rose named "Betty Prior." This deep floribunda never disappoints me. Each spring it comes back with remarkable vigor and hardiness and with only minimal summer care it continually produces charming and simple flowers.

Through the coldest days of fall "Betty Prior" always has one or two clusters for me to cut and enjoy, as if by this final display it promises that it will bloom again in spring.

THREADS LADIES APPAREL

SAVE 40% AND MORE ON NEW FALL FASHIONS

DESIGNER JEANS - BLAZERS
SKIRTS - PANTS - COATS
SWEATERS - SHIRTS - SUITS
AND MORE
SIZES 4-16
OPEN SAT. NOV. 1 10 to 4 P.M.
2900 GREENFIELD SUITE 214
OAK PARK, AT 10th mile VISA, MC

KIDS LOVE TO SKI



WE TEACH THEM HOW!

- Teaching Kids since 1969
- Ages 7-17
- Adult Chaperones
- Roundtrip Transportation
- 10 Children Per Class
- Certified by CSIA

Junior Ski Packages

Choose from:
Aulhler Ski (110-130 cm.) \$137.00
Aulhler Ski (140-160 cm.) \$141.00
Elon Ski (All sizes) \$134.00

All packages include:
• Tyrolis 80 Binding • Tomix Poles • Dolomite Boots
If you prefer Salomon 127 binding, please add \$3.00.
If you prefer Alpina boot, please subtract \$7.50.

*Added Value - SAVE \$\$\$
Boot Trade In
Buy a pair of boots this year - next season we will give you back 50% of the purchase price towards a new pair.

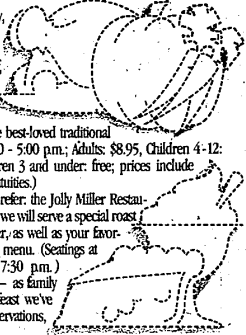
Compare and Save With Our Everyday Low Prices!

Used equipment and rentals available.

THE MOUNTAIN SHOP
MOUNTAIN BIKES • SKI EQUIPMENT
851-4240
Hours: Mon-Fri 10-8, Saturday 10-4

We've Outlined A Great Thanksgiving Feast.

Plan to share the full feast with us on Thursday, November 27 — in your choice of settings. The Grand Ballroom: a festive Thanksgiving Buffet with all kinds of treats, including roast Baron of Beef, roasted ham with raisin sauce, roast turkey and dressing — with all the trimmings, from fall



vegetables to our bountiful salad bar, plus, of course, the best-loved traditional desserts. (From 12:00 - 5:00 pm; Adults: \$8.95, Children 4-12: \$5.95, Children 3 and under: free; prices include tax and gratuities.)

Or if you prefer, the Jolly Miller Restaurant, where we will serve a special roast turkey dinner, as well as your favorites from our menu. (Seatings at 4:00, 6:00 and 7:30 pm.)

Both will be memorable — as family and friends gather to enjoy the picture perfect feast we've filled in beautifully — to the last detail. For reservations, call 459-4500.

Plymouth Hilton Inn
Five Mile and Northville Road, Plymouth, MI 48170

F&M DISTRIBUTORS
NO LOSS LEADERS • NO LIMITS

LIVONIA
13503 MIDDLEBELT
SOUTH OF JEFFRIES FREEWAY
522-6050

Halloween Specials
ALL CANDY INDIVIDUALLY WRAPPED
PERFECT FOR TRICK OR TREATING

8 oz. BAG OF ORIGINAL CHUNKIE	\$1.25	MOUNDS BITE SIZE	\$1.45
RAISENETTES 7 1/2 oz. Bag	\$1.25	ALMOND JOY BITE SIZE	\$1.45
10 oz. Bag CRUNCHY	\$1.79	DECORATIVE HALLOWEEN CANDLES - ASSORTED 2 1/2" TALL FIGURES	5/89¢
10 oz. Bag REESE	\$1.79	10 oz. Bag KIT KAT	\$1.70
		10 oz. Bag MR. GOODBAR	\$1.79

"EVERYBODY DISCOUNTS SOMETHING... F & M DISCOUNTS EVERYTHING!"

HEAD AND SHOULDERS CONDITIONING SHAMPOO 11 oz. \$2.50	OIL OF OLAY 8 oz. \$4.25
CREST TOOTHPASTE Reg. or Mint Flavor 7 oz. \$1.25	ALPHA KERI BATH OIL 16 oz. \$4.99
LIGHTS OF AMERICA Circular Energy-Saving Replacement Light Lasts 8 Years - Energy Efficient FOR ONLY \$7.95	CONAIR PRO 1600 HAIR DRYER 2 Speed • 4 Heat • 1600 Watts \$19.95
ALL OCCASION GIFT WRAP 90 sq. ft. 95¢	GILLETTE HEAT WRAP FLEXIBLE ELECTRIC HEATING PAD \$13.99
DRI-GAS 6 pack \$2.35	CLAIROL "SET-TO-GO" TRAVELING INSTANT ELECTRIC HAIRSETTER \$11.95
PARKERJOTTER BALL POINT PEN Manuf. List \$3.98 ONLY \$2.25	NEUTRAGENA 2 BAR PACK 3 1/2 oz. Each \$4.79
STUDENT SPECIAL YELLOW HOT LINER HAIR LINE WIDTH 47¢	RUBBERMAID SHELF LINER ONLY 88¢
ERASURE-MATE PEN Erasable Ball Point \$1.17	MARSHALL HOME BLOOD PRESSURE KITS #110 w/STETHOSCOPE \$13.99 #104 DELUXE KIT WITH STETHOSCOPE ATTACHED TO CUFF \$16.99

F&M PHARMACY

522-6100

CALL FOR A QUOTE ON YOUR PRESCRIPTIONS

F & M INSURANCE CO-PAY

COMPARE \$3.00 — F&M *1.97

COMPARE \$2.00 — F&M 97¢

Cabin Crafts Carpets Annual Factory-Authorized Sale Save 15% to 32% Up to 55% off on Selected Remnants

The annual Cabin Crafts Factory Authorized Carpet sale is going on now at McQueen's. Choose from our entire Cabin Crafts line, from hundreds of colors, styles & textures, all specially priced this week only.

SALE \$5.99 sq. yd.

Reg. \$7.99 sq. yd. This carpet blends the perfect combination of color & texture. It's easy to care for & always smart in appearance. A popular shag texture available in 13 designer colors.

SALE \$9.99 sq. yd.

Reg. \$13.99 sq. yd. Dense saxony plush pile carpeting. Made from Monsanto advanced generation "Ultron" nylon. Protected by Scotchgard & static controlled. Choose from 21 designer colors.

SALE \$11.49 sq. yd.

Reg. \$15.99 sq. yd. A luxurious saxony made from 100% "antron" nylon carpet. Combines elegance with harmonious coloring. Protected by Scotchgard & static controlled.

SALE \$12.49 sq. yd.

Reg. \$16.99 sq. yd. A heavy cut pile carpet with a saxony twist for long wear. A wide range of rich, natural earth-tone color hues enhance the beautiful texture.

Sale ends Wed., Nov. 5, 1980

McQueen's Carpets

4076 W. Maple • Birmingham • 647-5250

Daily 9:30 - 5:30

Thurs. & Fri. til 8:30

