

Trees selective about their soil

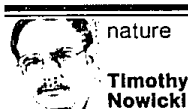
To many people who look at a forest, it may appear that trees and plants are growing just anywhere.

A closer look, however, will reveal that plants are particular about where they put their roots. Woodland trees and shrubs need certain requirements in order to survive.

Lowland areas near rivers and marshes have wet soil. Willows, muscledwood and swamp white oak are able to grow where the water level is high. Other trees — like ironwood, beech and red oak — would not be able to grow in wet soil. They need dry, well drained terrain to survive.

MICHIGAN SPORTS two main types of forest that demonstrate how trees grow in different areas.

Northern Michigan is at the south-



nature

Timothy Nowicki

ern edge of the northern coniferous forest. In a coniferous forest, such evergreens as spruce, white and red pine predominate.

Southern Michigan, south of Clare, is dominated by deciduous trees that lose their leaves every year.

In the southern deciduous forests, the age of a forest can be determined by looking at the types of trees and shrubs growing in an area. Such trees as aspen, staghorn sumac and sassafras love sun and are found

only in open or recently developed forest areas.

When species such as sugar maple and beech invade an area and grow tall, they provide so much shade that sun-loving trees die. In southeastern Michigan, a beech and maple forest is the ultimate forest because it can perpetuate itself.

DIFFERENT TYPES of forest also provide homes and food for different kinds of animals.

Goldfinch like open areas with scattered trees, while wood thrush like the deep forests.

Fox squirrels prefer forests where

nuts are produced, while woodchuck like the meadows.

Forests have provided the needs of both man and wildlife for many years.

This year the National Wildlife Federation is featuring the theme "Forests are more than trees" for its 50th National Wildlife Week — March 20-28. Teachers and scout leaders may want to send away for an informative packet of booklets and posters explaining about forests.

Send a dollar to: Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Box 30235, Lansing, 48909, and ask for the National Wildlife Week packet.



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Blood pressure class free

A series of six blood pressure control classes will be open free to Oakland County residents, the county health division announced.

Classes run 2-4 p.m. Wednesdays, from Feb. 24 to March 30, in the health division's Southfield office at

27725 Greenfield.

To preregister, call the health office at 424-7042. Class size is limited.

Spouses and family members may attend. Topics will include defining the disease, medications, diet and coping.

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SAVINGS

O&E 2



Raccoons like big old trees in swampy woods.

Seedlings available

Orders for tree seedlings are being taken by the Oakland County Soil and Water Conservation District, according to Kathryn Middleton, chairwoman.

Species available are: red, white Scotch and Austrian pine; Norway, Colorado blue and white spruce; Douglas fir and white cedar.

Black walnut, hybrid poplar, European whitebark, mountain ash, autumn olive, silky dogwood and

honeyuckle will also be available. In addition, a bird packet, shade tree packet, nut tree packet and hardwood packet will be offered.

Order blanks may be obtained from the soil district office, 8326 Highland Road, Pontiac; phone: 868-2232.

The trees will be available around the middle of April, and those who order trees will be notified of the time and place to pick them up.

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2. Include dark green and deep yellow fruits and vegetables rich in vitamins A and C.
3. Include cabbage, broccoli, brussels sprouts, kohlrabi and cauliflower.
4. Be moderate in consumption of salt-cured, smoked, and nitrite-cured foods.
5. Cut down on total fat intake from animal sources and fats and oils.
6. Avoid obesity.
7. Be moderate in consumption of alcoholic beverages.

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