

Suggestions for a perennial bed

This is the time of year to plan and begin work on a perennial bed to enjoy for many seasons.

After you have decided upon the location and have outlined it with a rope or garden hose, the question arises, "How do I remove all this grass?"

There are several methods. The first is to remove the turf with a flat spade. It is a long and tedious job, but it can be done.

A bonus from this is marvelous compost, which is made by piling the turf, face down, in layers, and watering it well. In approximately a year the whole pile will be transformed into compost.

Another method is to cover the grass with black plastic and let the hot sun "cook" the grass to death. Then the matter of separating the grass from the sod will just take a bit of time.

Chemical sprays containing glyphosate can be sprayed on the area. This will kill all the vegetation it touches. It shouldn't be applied if rain is predicted in several hours. After the ground has been sprayed, plants can safely be put in after approximately three weeks. Read the labels if this is the method you use.

FROM THE book "Easy Care Perennials," by Patricia A. Taylor (Fireseed, \$22.95 cloth, \$12.95 paper), we find that although many people think that perennial gardens are no work, they do indeed require upkeep and careful planning.

Many perennial plants can be started from seeds. But most of us are in too much of a hurry to wait, so the next best thing is either to find

Many perennial plants can be started from seeds.

friends who have extra plants or to buy the plants. The suggestions that follow are easy-to-grow ones. Your nursery will have others from which to choose.

For early spring bloom where sun appears before the trees leaf out, early spring bulbs can be planted. Later, flowers such as bleeding heart, bishop's hat (Epimedium grandiflorum) and Virginia bluebell will fill in.

From May through June, bellflower, candytuff, chives (chive vinegar is so pretty and easy to make), columbine, coral bells, ferns, foxglove (the heart medicine plant), hostas, iris, lamb's ears (Stachys byzantina), peony, phlox and sundrops (Oenothera fruticosa) will make a pretty show.

SUMMER BLOOMING easy-care perennials may include Aster flrikar-till, astilbe, (which comes in many colors and dries for winter arrangements), the balloon flower (Platyodon grandiflorum), bee balm (the source for tea after the Boston Tea Party), black-eyed Susan, butterfly weed (Asclepias tuberosa — please don't gather it from the wild, but buy it from a nursery that propagates its own), coreopsis, the ever lovely day-lily and the tiger lily.

Others are feverfew, lythrum (hasn't it been pretty this summer?), purple coneflower, rose campion and



down to earth
Marty Figley

yarrows. The achillea debutante (yarrow) is gracing my flower bed now and will for many years to come. Colors range from fiery cream yellow and gold, to shades of pink, salmon, lilac, purple and orange. This yarrow is a new one from Park Seeds Inc.

For fall, anemone (Anemone vitifolia "robustissima") sports a white fluff that appears when the seed pods open and can be used in dried arrangements. The New York aster, obedient plant and sedum "autumn joy," are all good choices.

KNOW THE site and consider sun, shade, drainage. A soil test can be

done at this time of year without much delay. The County Extension Centers can provide information.

A perennial bed may not be at its best for a couple of years, but the wait is well worth the lovely garden that will emerge.

If you need to know where to find perennial plants of any description, Brooklyn Botanic Garden has just released "A Nursery Source Manual" (\$4.95, plus \$1.50 postage). The address is 1009 Washington Ave., Brooklyn N.Y. 11225. It is divided into sections for plants suitable for specific areas of the garden. A short description is given for all plants listed, which is an education in itself.

NOW OPEN

Summit Ridge

from **\$99,900**

Overlooking the quiet Village of Milford. The Best of Country Living and City Access.

Ranches & Townhomes

- Cathedral Ceilings, Ultra Baths, Arched Windows, View Decks All Standard.

Call **685-0800** or Stop By 645 Summit Ridge Drive

Ralph Roberts
Re/Max Properties, Inc. **BROKERS WELCOME**

Models Open 1-5 pm except Thursdays

Summit St. X
Commerston Rd.
Nov 0
1-08

30 DAY OCCUPANCY

West Bloomfield ROYAL POINTE

MAPLE ROAD - WEST OF FARMINGTON ROAD

\$339,900

Luxurious 4 bedroom brick 2 story executive home with walk-out lower level. 3 car garage and security system. This unique plan consists of a living room, library and natural fireplace opening to lifestyle room and formal dining room. A spacious gourmet kitchen with island, large breakfast room and butler pantry are also included. The entry foyer features a 2-story ceiling and open staircase to the second floor. Double doors lead to the master bedroom suite, which is enhanced by a fireplace, two walk-in closets and designer bath with Roman step tub and glassed shower. Approximately 3400 sq. ft.

For more information, contact Cranbrook Park Development Co. **851-8940** Brokers Welcome

Homes Under Construction

SHERWOOD CREEK CONDOMINIUM HOMES

Priced from **\$166,990**

Ask about our "FREE" Wood Deck or Whirlpool Promotion

DON'T SETTLE FOR APARTMENT STYLE LIVING! DISCOVER THE DIFFERENCE AT SHERWOOD CREEK. QUALITY IS OUR "STANDARD."

- Spacious 2 & 3 Bedroom Ranch Homes
- 50 to 60 Day Occupancy
- Secured and Accredited by Pond & Stream

MODEL PHONE 661-2450 OPEN DAILY 1-6

Sales by: **COLLIER BANKER** 737-9000

Built by: **FECC** **FEARLE CONSTRUCTION CO.**

15 BLDG. PHASE 1
14 BLDG. PHASE 2

90 Acres
100 Detached Units
57 - 4 Unit Clusters
from **\$144,900 to \$225,000**
Phase I - Close Out Sale

8.9% 15 Year Fixed Interest Rate On Some Close-Out Units

SUMMER HOURS
Call 737-1016

Good Things Come to Those Who Wait . . . and Now the Wait is Over.

At last it's here—a neighborhood with all the warmth and charm of rolling hills and tall pine trees—Waling Woods. After months of careful planning and design, two beautifully decorated and furnished model homes from Hauser & Baum Custom Home Builders, Inc., are now open and you're invited for a grand tour.

Come stroll through our spacious rooms, take in the timeless beauty and livability of traditional architecture and detailed styling with contemporary comfort that give Waling Woods its distinctive appeal.

Waling Woods is not simply a development of exceptional homes, it's an exceptional small community. When complete, it will include a more than 3 acre park with bike and jogging paths, creating an environment ideally suited for the active family.

At last, the home you've been waiting for has finally arrived—Waling Woods—recapturing a tradition in fine living. Affordably priced from \$139,900.

Waling Woods is conveniently located in Highland Township on Harvey Lake Road, 1 1/2 miles north of I-50. Model homes are open daily 12-6, Saturday and Sunday 1-5, closed Thursdays. Call (313) 887-5101 or (313) 632-7886 for more information.

WALING WOODS
Hauser & Baum
CUSTOM BUILDERS, INC.

Bloomfield Mortgage announces big closing.

July 31, 1989

On August 1, Bloomfield Mortgage became part of Comerica. You'll still find the same competitive pricing, great mortgage options, efficient processing and excellent customer service. You'll even find the same staff at the same phone numbers and offices.

August 1, 1989

But now Bloomfield Mortgage is called Comerica Mortgage Corporation. For mortgage advice from one of Michigan's banking leaders, call us today at 1-800-292-1300.

Comerica
Mortgage Corporation

© 1989 Comerica, Inc.