

## Figley from page G2

Potentilla (several colors of bloom). Lilacs, Syringa, Viburnum, Viburnum species and Weigela species are available in several varieties.

Azaleas and Rhododendrons, Rhododendron species, shouldn't be overlooked as these broadleaf evergreens add a handsome note to many gardens.

Many roses, Rosa species, are hardy and carefree and may be worth a try.

A new book, "Hardy Trees and Shrubs: A Guide to Disease-resistant Varieties for the North," Robert Osborne, photographs, Beth Powning (Key Porter Books, \$19.95, soft), contains all of this information and more. Many of the plants described in detail in the book are hardy from zones 2 to 5. The author gives beautiful descriptions as well as practical advice.

There are chapters about general care, pruning and nurturing, pests and diseases. The appendix gives all pertinent information at a glance, broken down by species, Latin and common name, hardiness zone and average mature height.

A very special tree program sponsored by American Forests, the oldest national non-profit conservation organization - founded in 1875 - dedicated to preserving trees and forests, has begun.

Now you can own a direct descendant of the original parent tree from historic trees that stand at the homes of American presidents. What an unusual gift!

You can choose a Tulip Poplar (George Washington), a Sugar Maple (Franklin Pierce), a White Oak (James Monroe), a Sycamore (Gerald Ford) or a tree to represent another president.

This tree holiday program includes a photograph of the "parent" tree in a gift card format; the actual tree is shipped for spring planting. For a free tree selection booklet and ordering information, call (800) 320-8733.

Confidential: I'm still looking for readers who use push mowers. Please send a postcard to me at The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009. I'll contact you next year.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859.



MARTY FIGLEY

**Shrub shaping:** To keep potentilla fruticosa in shape, each year gather the branches into a bundle, and cut off about half of the previous year's growth.

## Gardening workshops explain composting

A Waste-wise Fall Gardening Workshop with gardener and writer Janet Macunovich will take place 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 19, in the Lathrup Village City Office Community Room, just north of 11 Mile at 27400 Southfield Road.

The free program, sponsored by the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority, includes mulching/composting demonstrations by master composters. For more information and to register, call SOCRRA at (810) 288-5160.

A free workshop, "Feed the Earth - Compost!", will take place 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 3, at The Community House, 380 S. Bates, Birmingham.

The program, presented by SOCRRA master composters, will include how to get started in your own back yard, materials for composting, practical tips and using compost to build healthy soils.

How-to-do-it information materials will be distributed. Call (810) 288-5160 to register.

## Get shade trees for \$10

Ten 'free' shade trees will be given to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during September.

The trees are part of the nonprofit Foundation's Trees for America campaign.

The ten shade trees are sugar maple, red oak, pin oak, green ash, thornless honeylocust, weeping willow, river birch, tuliptree, silver maple and red maple.

"Spectacular fall colors are among the many benefits of these beautiful

shade trees," said John Rosenow, the Foundation's president.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Oct. 1 and Dec. 10 with enclosed planting instructions. The six to 12 inch trees are guaranteed to grow, or they will be replaced free of charge.

To become a member of the Foundation and to receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to Ten Free Shade Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410 by Sept. 30.



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