

## 'Garden mulch' — sounds ugly, looks great

**T**AKE A look at the landscaping in any industrial park and you'll see mulch. It's that layer of pine bark nuggets, wood chips or stone spread around the plants and flowers that gives the whole job a clean, finished appearance.

Popular in commercial installations, mulch is mostly overlooked by homeowners and that's too bad. The right mulch in the right place will not only give your garden and landscaped areas a nice, manicured look, it will save you literally tons of water by holding moisture in the soil.

Mulch also keeps weeds in the dark so they don't come up. And, if you use organic mulches, they'll improve your soil as they decompose. Mulches can be bought at the garden center, or you can make your own using a garden shredder. Here are some mulches to consider:

1. Pine Bark or Needles: Pine bark comes in shreds, chips and nuggets of various sizes. It has a soft brown color and pleasant texture. Pine needles are also a lovely, good-smelling mulch. All will last several years, gradually breaking down and improving the soil. Pine mulches acidify the soil so they're

best around evergreens, rhododendrons, azaleas and other plants which like this condition. Elsewhere, apply limestone to offset acidity.

2. Wood chips: You can buy wood chips, but it's easy to make your own using a garden shredder. Machines like the Vornado Chipp'r/Shredd'r/Mulch'r handles heavy wood up to 1 3/4 inches in diameter, as well as grass clippings, fallen leaves and garden waste. These machines are available in gas or electric models and can be purchased at hardware stores, garden centers, and wherever outdoor power equipment is sold.

3. Leaves and grass clippings: Shredded, both of these natural byproducts of your yard make excellent mulches. Neither grass nor leaves should be used unprocessed as they will compact and form an impenetrable mat.

4. Salt hay and straw: Not as attractive as bark or chips, but great for the vegetable garden, salt hay and straw



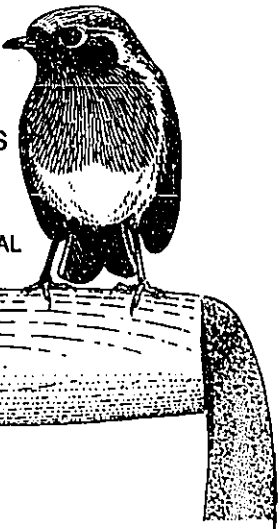
Mulch saves water, keeps weeds down and gives landscaped areas a professional, finished look.

Please turn to Page 18

AGARDEN OF  
*Spring Delights*

MICHIGAN'S LARGEST SELECTION OF ANNUAL & PERENNIALS GROWN IN OUR OWN GREENHOUSES

PERSONALIZED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE



goldner walsh nursery  
**332-6430**

559 Orchard Lake Rd. (1 Mile E. of Telegraph) Pontiac, MI

**GOLDNER WALSH FLORIST**  
332-7445

Mon.-Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

### DO IT YOURSELF


Brick... Stone... Fireplaces...

Williams Panel Brick will show you how to increase the beauty and value of your home.

Ask About Our Do-It-Yourself Seminars.  
Professional Installation Available

**R-BRICK**

- Insulating up to R-10 Value
- Real Clay Kiln fired Brick
- Lightweight/No Foundation Needed
- Maintenance Free/20 Year Warranty



**CULTURED STONE® VENEER**

- Lightweight
- Interior or Exterior
- Cost Effective
- Durable & Maintenance Free



*Williams*  
**Panel Brick Mfg. Co.**  
27303 W. 8 Mile

Redford 538-6633  
Troy 524-9150