

Credits

SPRING'S WARM winds invariably heighten interest in home gardening. And this year is proving no exception, if business at local garden centers is any indication.

At English Gardens in West Bloomfield, nursery manager Mike Bovio said: "We've been very excited with the warm weather. Groups of people are anxious to get started. The season seems to be going well. People seem to be enthused about going out and doing work in their yards."

They're especially looking for a lot of early spring items that have color. And they're "looking for new and different items in all plant material: trees, shrubs, evergreens," Bovio said.

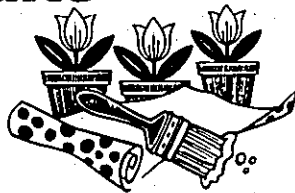
"Pansies have been a big hit in early spring planting among the annuals," he added.

In this second home and garden section of the season, our intent is to provide an informative, easy-to-read package of stories written especially for the suburban gardener.

We also set out to serve up news and notes for folks contemplating a spruce-up around the ol' homestead.

For home garden buffs, here's one reason to grow your own veggies: By the time asparagus makes it 2,700 miles from California to New York, even by refrigerated truck, two-thirds of its vitamin C is lost.

For handy homeowners, here's a



do-it-yourself tip: boost your air conditioner's efficiency during warm-weather months by cleaning filters once a month. Also consider installing a ceiling fan to improve air circulation.

This special section appears today in all 12 Observer & Eccentric Newspapers. As always, we appreciate reader feedback!

— Bob Sklar
assistant managing editor

Bob Sklar coordinated this special section with assistance from O&E copy editors Keely Wygonik and Beth Sundra. O&E representatives Dave Czarnota and Rhonda Sharpe coordinated advertising.

O&E staff photographer Jim Jagdfeld took the cover picture at the 1991 International Builder's Home, Flower and Furniture Show at Detroit's Cobo Center in March. O&E graphics editor Randy Borst designed the cover.

Direct queries to Bob Sklar: 953-2113.

A variety of nifty gadgets simplify garden recycling

By Keely Wygonik
staff writer

ONCE AN activity for the trendy, recycling is fast becoming another household chore.

Besides changing the way we take out the trash, recycling is spurring the growth of a bumper crop of gardening gadgets.

There's more to composting than a heap of scraps. High-tech machines are taking the drudgery out of recycling in the garden.

Composting coffee grounds, vegetable and fruit peels was never easier. There are lots of tools on the market that will make your job easier.

Some of them are even made with recycled materials like the Ringer Compost Bin, suggested retail price \$44.96. It has a 12-bushel capacity and is designed to withstand weather and repeated use. Don't forget the Compost Starter & Enhancer, a product that retails for \$9.98. It reduces odors and accelerates the decomposition process.

Products such as the Chipp'r/Shredd'r/Mulch'r and LeafEater, both from Flowertron Outdoor Products, save time and reduce waste. The only thing they don't do is haul the waste to the curb, garden or compost pile.

The Chipp'r/Shredd'r/Mulch'r shreds prunings from trees, shrubs and roses, as well as grass clippings gathered while mowing the lawn.

The new electric-powered model (C.S. 3000) chips branches up to two inches in diameter, comes with a collecting bag and can be operated upright or lying on the ground, to easily rake leaves into the shredding hopper.

AN AVERAGE size lawn can fill up to 16 bags per raking, so a great deal of time and money can be saved each spring and fall by reducing leaves and grass clippings with Flowertron's LeafEater.

The machine shreds wet or dry leaves and clippings quickly, reducing eight bags of leaves to one bag. It even

Please turn to Page 5

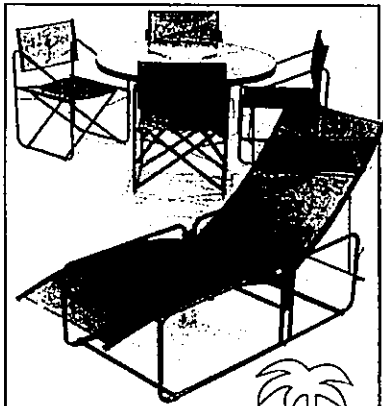
46th Anniversary Sale

SAVE 45%

46 years ago Brown Jordan began manufacturing quality outdoor furniture; 46 years ago Jimmies started selling it. In celebration Jimmies is now offering a special price on the high-styled, fully foldable Nomad Collection.

Table & four chairs
reg. \$1185
NOW ONLY \$649

BROWN JORDAN



Jimmies
CASUAL & OUTDOOR FURNITURE
RUSTICS

Novi
348-0090 • 48700 Grand River
Livonia
522-9200 • 29500 W. 6 Mile Rd.
Birmingham
644-1919 • 221 Hamilton

All JIMMIES Stores Open:
Mon. & Fri. 10-8; Tues. Wed. Sat. 10-6; Thurs. 10-9; Sun. 11-4

B-IN-A BRICKSCAPING



by Kevin Adams Construction

The alternative to wood decking

Specializing in:

- PATIOS
- WALKWAYS
- DRIVEWAYS

Licensed • Insured
Est. Since 1980

"We Guarantee All Our Work"

DEARBORN • 383-7799

NOVI • 344-1446

Painting • Wallpapering & Removal • Spray Textured Ceilings
• Interior & Exterior Staining • Aluminum Siding Refinishing



Your Satisfaction is Guaranteed With
3 Years Written Warranty

**\$50.00
OFF**

Interior Work
(Minimum of 4 Rooms)
Scheduled or Completed Work Excluded
With Coupon Expires 8-3-91

**\$100.00
OFF**

Complete Exterior Work
Scheduled or Completed Work Excluded
With Coupon Expires 8-3-91

SHUR Co., Inc.

FREE APPRAISALS

29217 FORD ROAD
GARDEN CITY, MI 48135
421-2241

