

Made in the Shade

There's more to shade gardening than just green

by Joan Boram
special writer

Shade gardeners of the world, unite! You have nothing to lose but your hostas! Not that there's anything wrong with hostas — especially since modern hybridizers have given us such a variety of greens, blue-greens, and variegated hostas to choose from, as well as a selection of leaf shapes and plant sizes.

But in gardening, as in all things, people like choices. Well, even in shade gardening, there is more to choose from than hostas.

"Shade gardening is of particular delight to me," says Julie Lopez, who has offered seminars on shade gardening for garden clubs. "It provides an opportunity for creativity. Many people are intimidated by shade gardening — they've been indoctrinated into thinking that 'garden' means 'sun', and so they settle for impatiens and hostas."

But, Lopez says, shade offers the chance to mix textures, shapes of leaves and plants, and combinations of green-on-green.

Before planning your shade garden,

it's best to take the time to discover what kind of shade you're coping with. Unless you live in a forest, chances are you have more than one kind of shade.

A lightly-shaded area will receive full shade only a couple of hours each day. Dappled sunlight, such as under a tree with lacy leaves, is considered light shade.

Medium shade receives about five hours of full shade on an average summer day.

Full shade occurs under a mature oak, evergreen, or other large-canopied tree



Winding pathways combined with some added color from shrubs and planted annuals, such as the landscaping shown above, can turn a plain, dark area into a focal point of your yard.

See SHADE, p. 10

PURCHASE TROPITONE, NOW ON SALE & GET FREE REPLACEMENT SLINGS

Purchase the 'Geneva Slings' or any other Tropitone Collection on sale this month & get a certificate to replace your sling seats or cushions free. That's how good we know this furniture wears!

For details visit 824 N. Main, Downtown Rochester (810) 652-1080
Call for our free 100-page store catalog.

casual concepts

LENNOX

Pre-Season Sale

0% INTEREST or **\$150 REBATE**
12 months with approved credit on the Q26 FURNACE OR the HS 19 AC UNIT

Central Air Conditioning

FREE ESTIMATES

Best in a LENNOX
Heating & Air Conditioning

- Quiet Operation
- Compact Styling
- Reliable Performance
- Professional Installation

SM HEATING SALES COMPANY

23262 Telegraph • Southfield, Mich.
Service maintenance agreements very affordable
Complete 24 hour service company.

352-4656