

# Remember these important tasks

Where did the time go? The best intentions to get the garden "put to bed" by now didn't happen.

I suppose we might be plagued with more weeds in some of the beds that still need attention when next season comes around. But maybe this month will have a few warm, suitable days to finish the more important tasks.

Here are some things to do that sometimes get neglected:

■ To keep snow from becoming or breaking the branches of young evergreens, tie the branches together.

■ First drive a sturdy stake slightly taller than the plant into the ground beside the plant. Starting at the bottom, loosely wind twine around the plant and stake until you reach the top. Remove it when the seasons change.

■ We are still not over the effects of our drought, so be sure to slowly deep water the evergreens, perennials, shrubs and large trees (these out to the drip line) before they go dormant.

■ If we don't have snow or wet weather for a while, another drink of water will avoid winter stress. Remember: Don't apply mulch on the garden until we have a hard freeze.

■ Tools are often neglected with all the hustle and bustle of fall work.

■ Clean each tool by removing any clods of dirt with water and a wire brush. Dry thoroughly and spray all exposed metal with a rust inhibitor or clean oil the rust with naval jelly.

■ Sand the wooden handles lightly and give them a light coat of either boiled linseed or tung oil. You might want to paint them with a bright color so they'll be easy to spot in the garden.

■ Keep a container of sand in



A well-cared for garden is a healthy garden.

the garage and plunge each tool into it right after you have used it. This will also help to keep them clean and rust free.

■ The compost pile is a haven for little critters, so after the first hard frost, turn it to deter them.

■ Save vegetable scraps in a covered container under the sink and when it's full, dig a hole in the heap and add the scraps. Cover well. The microbes will use you for it.

■ Large vegetables such as pumpkins and squash should be cut in small pieces first.

■ Later this month, check the dahlia tubers and other summer-blooming flowers that you have stored for the winter to be sure they are dry and healthy.

■ Continue to mow the lawn as long as it is growing. A mulching mower can be run right across the leaves to enrich the soil. Sure beats raking them!

■ Never allow leaves to lie for long on the lawn. They'll cut off light from the grass and encourage the growth of fungi.

■ Remove stakes and trellises from the garden to keep it tidy. Trellises that are left out doors often sag from exposure. Wipe them off and store in a covered area.

■ Some plants - such as the hollyhock, peony and iris - are prone to disease and need to be trimmed back to they won't contaminate next year's

growth. Trim these plants even though others are left standing. Those with seed heads will entice the birds to your property.

■ While you're at it, if the ground isn't frozen, get rid of weeds that were missed before.

■ Don't forget to water your container growing chrysanthemums two to three times a week, so they will add beauty to the landscape for several weeks.

■ Hardy mums will overwinter in our climate, and now there are those that need deadheading. Look for those colorful plants in the aqua pots.

■ While the holly is in bloom, clip the branches now before the birds get them all. Keep the holly in cold storage until you want to use it next month.

■ If Mother Nature gives us a heavy snow (who can tell what she will do?), especially one that will turn to ice, shake the boughs of the evergreens gently to dislodge the snow.

■ Ice has already formed, leave the shrubs alone. A spray of water will also melt the ice if it forms.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

# Designer Vicente Wolf to speak in Troy

Contemporary designer Vicente Wolf will speak at Michigan Design Center in Troy Wednesday, Nov. 13. The event, which is open to trade professionals only, will take place at 9:30 a.m. in the Mid-America Room, Suite 86, at MDC.

Tickets are \$40 and include a continental breakfast, the lecture and a copy of Wolf's first book, *Learning to See*, which was recently released. A book signing will immediately follow the lecture.

Also, trade professionals are invited to lunch noon to 1 p.m. at the Beacon Hill

Showroom, Suite 13. To reserve a spot, send a check (made payable to Michigan Design Center) to Michigan Design Center, 1700 Stutz Drive, Suite 25, Troy 48064. Reservations will be held at the door. Call (248) 649-2020 for more information.

Wolf has been recognized as a leader in the world of contemporary design for more than 25 years.

*House Beautiful* named him one of the 10 most influential designers in the United States, and *Interior Design Magazine* inducted him into its Designer

Hall of Fame. In addition, Wolf's work has been featured in a variety of design publications, including *Architectural Digest*, *The New York Times*, *Elle Décor* and *House Beautiful*.

In *Learning to See*, Wolf invites readers to step into his process of creating interiors by sharing his secrets of where to find ideas, how to shop, how to use personal experiences as a design springboard and how to come up with a conceptual and aesthetic framework that allows you to create a world within a room.

## GARDEN CALENDAR

**Bromeliad society**  
The S.E.M. Bromeliad Society will present a round table discussion. Bromeliads in Terrariums, with a spotlight on the Racinae species 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, at the Rochester Hills Environmental Center on Avon Road, just west of Livernois.

for more information, call (248) 375-1411 mornings.

**Oakland Audubon Society**  
The meeting of the Oakland Audubon Society 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12, will feature an informal trip to tropical Belize to enjoy the natural settings with well-known nature photographer Roger Bajorek.

The meeting will take place at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, on Maple between Southfield and Cranbrook roads. Admission is free. The public may attend.

**Troy Garden Club**  
The Troy Garden Club will meet noon to 3 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 13, at Big Beaver United Methodist Church, 3753 John R. Just south of Matties in Troy. Jan Johnson will speak on Shade Gardens with Color and Interest.

Everson is president of the Michigan Hosta Society, an advanced master gardener, and known as the Hosta Lady. She will help attendees place ferns, astilbes, heuchera and of course hostas into their gardens.

Refreshments will be served at noon. Guest donation, \$3. Reservations aren't required. For more information, call Barb at (248) 952-5938.

**Cactus and succulent society**  
The Michigan Cactus and Succulent

Society will have a program on Your Favorite Plant 2 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 814 N. Campbell in Royal Oak. Members and visitors are asked to bring their favorite plant to show and discuss. Admission is free. Call (248) 524-0227 for more information.

**Keleba International**  
Keleba International Detroit Chapter 85 will meet Wednesday, Nov. 13, at Southfield Presbyterian Church, 21575 W. 10 Mile. A workshop on nagere will take place 9:30 a.m. A workshop on using unusual containers will take place at noon.

**America Recycles Day**  
Celebrate America Recycles Day with the Southeastern Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority (SOCRRRA). SOCRRRA will offer tours of the Material Recovery Facility at 995 Coolidge, between 14 and 15 Mile in Troy, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 15 and 16. This is an opportunity to see how recyclables are sorted and baled.

Tours will take place 1 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. Nov. 15 and 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. Nov. 16. The tour's last about 1:14 hours. Call SOCRRRA at (248) 288-5150 in advance to reserve a spot.

**Royal Oak Garden Club**  
The Royal Oak Garden Club regularly meets 1 p.m. the second Monday of each month in the auditorium of the Royal Oak Public Library, 222 E. Mile (1 mile east of Woodward, 1 mile north of I-696). The club's next meeting will be Monday, Nov. 11. For more information, e-mail Cheri Martin at cmartin.lin@aol.com, or call club president Rose Kudron at (248) 288-4380.

## Shopping benefit set for Boys & Girls Clubs

The merchants of Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi will host a benefit for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan and the Farmington Family YMCA at the Holiday Shopping Extravaganza, an exclusive, private shopping event 7-10 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10.

Here's a chance to shop without the crowds.

You'll enjoy desserts and coffee, free valet parking, a goodie bag filled with products and coupons, complimentary gift wrap for up to two packages, and a chance to win door prizes (including the grand prize of a \$1,000 shopping spree).

Advance tickets are \$25 and can be reserved by calling the Boys & Girls Clubs at (248) 473-1400, Ext. 31. All ticket proceeds go to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern Michigan and the Farmington Family YMCA.

Twelve Oaks Mall is at I-96 and Novi Road.

## Handyman CONNECTION

www.handymanconnection.com

The Original Home Repair Specialists!

### What Can We Do For You?

- Carpentry
- Plumbing
- Electrical Work
- Painting
- Kitchen & Bath
- Drywall
- Ceramic Tile
- Decks
- Small & Medium Remodeling

Experienced Craftsmen  
Guaranteed in Writing For One Year  
Over 700,000 Satisfied Customers  
Insured and Bonded

For More Information Call: **248-848-9400**

The most comfortable call you can make!  
\*Offer subject to change without notice. Not valid with any other offer. Independently owned & locally operated. (A+H)

Handyman CONNECTION <b>SAVE \$15</b> on any work over \$80	Handyman CONNECTION <b>SAVE \$25</b> on any work over \$100
Handyman CONNECTION <b>SAVE \$50</b> on any work over \$250	Handyman CONNECTION <b>SAVE \$100</b> on any work over \$750

**Good For One FREE SERVICE CALL**

Now Open

## Ambiance

decor+design

### Your Style • Our Store Magic!

6,000 square foot showroom.  
Design Services Available at Canadian Prices  
(access to Michigan Design Center)

13126 Tecumseh Rd. East • Windsor, Ontario, Canada  
519-977-9004

# Fall Sale

The Month of October  
**10% off**  
All Granite in stock  
Sale items excluded

## Marble - Granite - Silkstone®

Why buy countertops at retail when you can buy direct. Since we fabricate at our own locations, we beat the "Big Box" store pricing. We offer quick delivery and personalized service.

### Granite 3cm thick!

\$45.95	S/F	Rosa Beta
\$45.95	S/F	Luna Pearl
\$49.95	S/F	Impala Black
\$49.95	S/F	Verde Butterfly
\$49.95	S/F	Tan Brown
\$49.95	S/F	Giulio Veneziaof
\$49.95	S/F	Vyara Gold
\$52.95	S/F	Absolute Black

All prices include installation & measurement, straight polished edge 20 s/1 minimum

## NEW

Antiqued Granite Slabs  
3 cm thick  
5 Colors to choose from  
**10% off Introductory Special**  
Watch For Our  
**Viva L'Italia Sale**  
November 21-23  
**In Stock**  
PORCELAIN 13X13 TILE  
8 Colors \$1.99 S/F

## Silkstone!

**\$29.95 S/F Installed!**  
Includes installation, measurements, straight polished edge, 20 s/1 minimum.

## Huge Savings!!

**GRANITE MARBLE REMNANTS**  
\$12.95 S/F

We stock over fifteen hundred slabs of Marble, Granite and Silkstones in over eighty unique colors. We stock the largest selection of imported ceramic tile in Michigan.  
*Check our prices first!*

## Ceramic Tile Sales Inc.

### Marble & Granite Shop

<b>Southfield</b> 23455 Telegraph Rd. 248-356-6430	<b>Farmington Hills</b> 24301 Indoplex Circle (248) 426-0093	<b>Rochester</b> 1972 Star Batt Dr. 248-853-4654
--	--	--

Visit one of our Showrooms!

Installation includes Wayne, Oakland, and Macomb Counties. Others at additional cost. Offer not valid with any other discount. All previous orders excluded. Subject to stock on hand.

**Showroom Hours: M-T-Th 8:30-5:00; W-F 8:30-8:00; Sat 9:00-5:00**