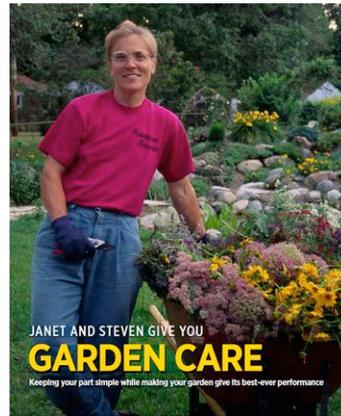
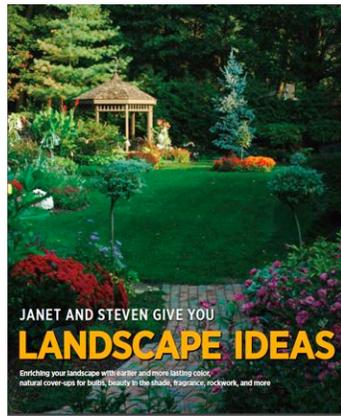
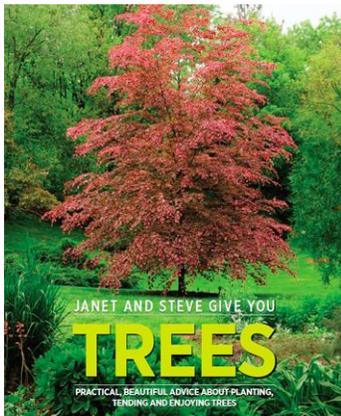


Janet and Steven give you:
Trees Landscape Ideas

Garden Care.



You said you wanted **our advice on paper**. Here it is.

Each of these large-format journals (10" x 13") has 48 sturdy, ad-free pages loaded with our thoughts and pictures. Each journal has 15 to 20 articles that cover its topic of trees, landscape ideas or garden care.

True to our commitment to write-to-learn, we wrote each article, premiered it in *Michigan Gardener* and then waited, not repeating the information in other media as we wrote related items. Now, after ten years of building our collection we've assembled it here for comprehensive coverage of gardening's top topics.

Perhaps you're one of those who've told us, "I love your articles. I save every one." Now you can start sending that collection of clippings to the compost or use it to smother ground for a new garden. These journals are all-Janet, all-Steven, without advertising.

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Inside *Janet and Steven give you: Trees*:

Contents

- Why every back yard needs a big tree
- Select trees for a landscape
- Choose arborvitae for a hedge
- Making more of fall color
- Losing our ash trees
- Replacing a big tree
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- Planting a B&B tree or shrub
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from: **Introduction to Trees**
Trees...

...they are the bones of a landscape, comfort on a windy or sweltering day, and multipliers of property value. They serve as ecological pivot points for songbirds, hummingbirds, butterflies, clean air, improved soil and much more.

There were no trees on site when we bought our house and started growing together 34 years ago. It took us ten years of discussion, research, revelation and more than a few trials to arrive at the line-up and placement of trees we have now, the ones we call our "forever trees." Please don't misunderstand us -- that ten years was not a loss to us but a delightful romp through all we knew and were learning about trees. We were able to watch beautiful plants grow, experiment with planting and maintenance techniques, and move trees when we realized another spot would suit them better -- often that was in a client or friend's yard. We grew every step of the way, and growing is what we love best.

However, we know that others prefer to arrive more quickly at this end. That's why we work for others to plan, plant, tend gardens and landscapes, as well as teach landscape how-to in our books and classes. What we bring to our clients, our students and to you in this collection of articles is the practical distillation of over three decades and perhaps a thousand tree-planting experiences. Take this and use it to make good decisions about your tree choices and care from the get-go.

We think you'll also have fun as you read, which is as it should be. May you sit under your trees and smile, as we do!



from: **Preventing Construction Damage**
Builder, save that tree!

More people are digging in these days. Not digging into the soil to make a garden, but digging in on their property to improve it by adding on or remodeling their homes. Ironically, this often increases the property value in one way while reducing it in another, unexpected way.

I'm talking about established trees and landscape, overlooked assets that are often lost during and after construction. Some times, the loss is unavoidable. Even if you wanted to preserve a particular tree or group of shrubs during the construction process it might not be possible. More often, the loss is the result of oversight, ignorance or miscommunication.

There loss can be huge, in tangible and intangible forms. First, there's resale value to consider. Surveys by realtor groups involving photos of homes with and without trees and shrubs and people asked how much they would pay for the various properties indicate that landscaping can add 20 percent to the value of a home. Greenery in general but large trees especially, garnered positive responses. ssy-foot around species with brittle branches....

... Watch for signs of stress. These signs may not show up right away -- in fact, symptoms of stress may not show up for months or a year in larger plants. The bigger the plant, the longer you may have to keep it under watch.

Give stressed plants kid glove treatment. Watering is the most important thing you can do but special fertilizing, pruning and patrolling for particular pests that prey on weakened plants of that type may be in order, too. Follow the plan that you made for the plant or had made by an arborist or horticulturist 'way back in phase one. It all comes together now, when you see your plants resume the growth rates and beauty they possessed before you were possessed by the construction bug.

from: **Replacing A Big Tree**

Use the tree selection charts to find trees that match the space you have, then choose from those for one that appeals to your design sense in its flower color, shape or season of interest.

Hardy trees, hardy shopper

All of these trees can be grown in USDA Zones 5 - 7. If you are in zone 4 you can grow all except the Chinese fringe tree, mountain silverbell, golden rain tree and yellowwood. If your local garden center doesn't have the one you want in stock, don't lose hope. First, be sure to request it aloud -- no garden center can stock everything but they are most likely to pursue what customers ask for. Then, check my notes on page 16 in "Where to find these uncommon trees" and the charts on pages 12 and 16...

Trees for spaces where roots can spread just five feet wide.

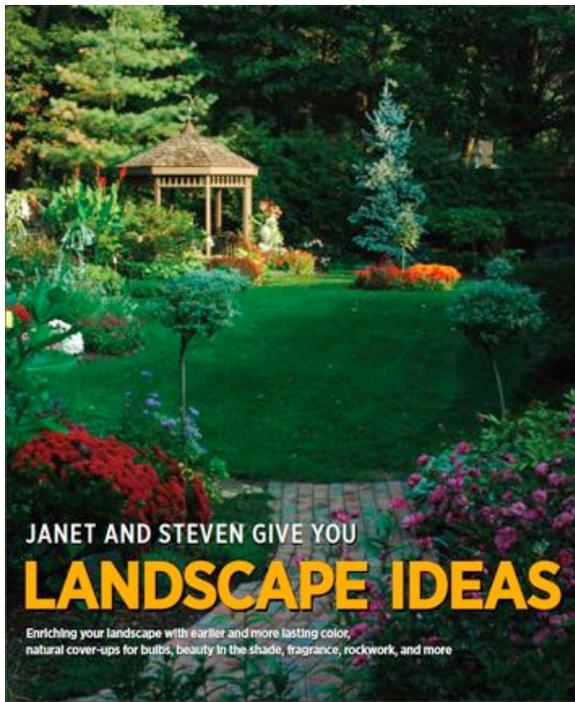
These trees can tolerate the restricted root space of small islands and the narrowest strips between sidewalk and street. Some may need pruning to remove lower branches as they grow, creating clearance for traffic below the main branches.

Chinese fringetree (*Chionanthus retusus*) 15 - 25' tall, may be taller. Slow to grow, less than 12" per year. Often shrubby in habit, to attain tree form must have lower limbs removed as it grows. Hardy within the Detroit Metro area but may not be hardy in the colder parts of zone 5 in suburbs. Bright white confetti flowers in June. Blue-black fruit in fall is relished by birds but borne only on female trees, if a male fringetree is nearby. Fall color may be yellow. Grows in full sun or part shade. Prefers deep, moist soil but is very tolerant of a wide range of soil conditions.

Crabapples (*Malus* varieties with known disease resistance such as 'Adams', 'Prairifire', 'Red Jewel', and 'Sugar Tyme') 15' ('Red Jewel'), 18' ('Sugar Tyme'), 20' ('Prairifire'), 24' (Adams), rounded or slightly narrower than tall. Grows about 12" per year. Flowers white ('Red Jewel'), pale pink ('Adams', 'Sugar Tyme') or dark red-purple ('Prairifire'). Fruit small, red and persisting prettily into and even through winter. Birds eat the fruit in late winter. Full sun, well drained soil.

Hawthorns (thornless types such as *Crataegus phaenopyrum* 'Princeton Sentry', Washington h., and *C. crusgalli inermis*, Crusader h.) 20 to 25' tall and wide. 12-15" growth per year. White flowers (with unpleasant odor - Crusader) come later than crabapples but help these trees masquerade as crabs. Fall color orange to red or purple. Crusader keeps its small reddish fruit into early winter, Princeton Sentry until spring; birds are attracted to both. Full sun and any type of soil so long as it is well drained.

Japanese tree lilac (*Syringa reticulata*) 20 to 30' tall and not quite as wide. Grows 12 to 18" per year....



Inside Janet and Steven give you: Landscape Ideas:

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Designs that "spring" from foliage color
 Solving bulbs' disappearing act
 Doubling up perennials:
 A singularly great plan
 Spotlight on shade gardens
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Murphy's Laws hop over the garden gate
 Renovating a garden:
 Make it better, simpler, more pleasing
 Plant to please the nose!
 Inviting wildlife into your garden
 Take the "hard" out of working with rocks
 Approach with caution: Invasive plants

Discovering hidden assets,
 anticipating the unexpected
 Herbs: They don't stay in the garden
 When your cheating will be appreciated



from: Spotlight on Shade Gardens

"From the sunny side, all shade is mysterious. The details of the spot become clear only when you step within the dark. Drawn to a dark corner by the prospect of a cool retreat, I am sometimes disappointed to find shade but little refreshment. Barren ground can do that -- hard-packed, lifeless soil can't provide visual and mental refreshment to accompany the cooler air.

If you have a shaded spot that doesn't measure up as a garden retreat, chances are that you can change the situation in three steps.

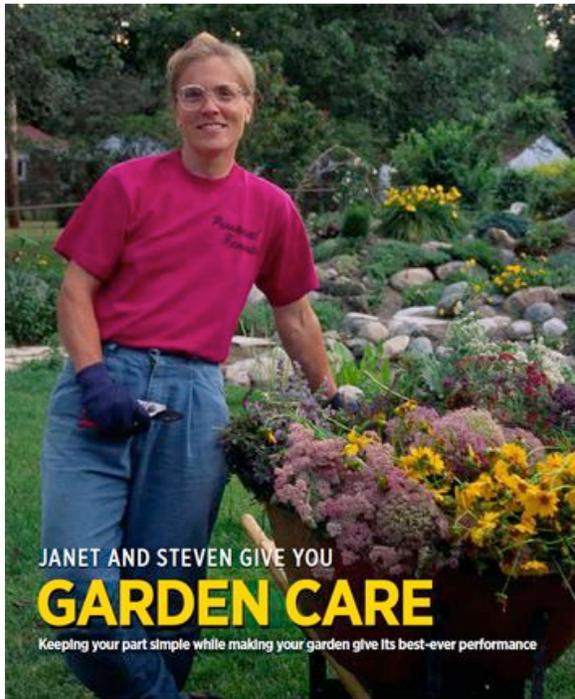
First, beef up the soil. Plants that grow under and around trees in nature do so in decades or centuries of fallen leaf litter. High in humus, it's moisture retentive and returns to the soil almost all of what was removed to produce those leaves. Soil animals -- worms, insects, and microscopic creatures -- team in the rich leaf mold, adding nitrogen and changing leaves into easily-absorbed nutrients

from: Renovating a Garden

All things pass. All gardens eventually need renovation. Although it can be difficult for us to recognize the need for a makeover in our own garden, once we make that first leap it's easy to see that now is the time to act. Fall is the very best season for restoring what's been great to its former glory or transforming it into something even better.

Everyone involved is up for the change. Plants with months of growing time behind them have plenty of energy socked away so their comeback's assured. Should we decide to simplify transplanting by cutting plants back ahead of their natural fall, there are no recriminations. The plant, like the person, is willing to give a little as days shorten and temperatures drop. They switch growth gears to cease leafy growth and take hold of the earth with new roots.

Gardeners are raring to go, too, because they're in shape, loving the cooler weather and able to frolic at last. With fall comes an end to the careful moves and kid gloves necessary to avoid offending plants in full summer extension and bloom. We can romp, rather than pussy-foot around species with brittle branches.



Inside Janet and Steven give you: Garden Care:

Contents

- Dig a fertile, well-drained bed
- Answers beneath your feet: Testing soil
- Weed-free beds are no accident
- Springy start up to a great new year
- Improving hard-packed soil
- Cure fertilizerphobia
- When to break the rules with fertilizer
- Critical skills: Watering in July
- Cut as you will, it makes more plants!
- Repairing irrigation lines
- Gift to yourself: A drought tolerant garden
- Tough love: Deadheading, cutting back & pinching
- Sharpen those pruning tools
- High summer, time to tweak
- Tricks to make a summer garden shine
- Staking: Two-step in May becomes quite the dance in summer
- The art of fall garden clean up

from: When to Break the Rules with Fertilizer

For many years now I've broken the rule: "Withhold fertilizer in late summer around woody plants and hardy perennials." The experts spoke on this topic as with one voice, with such dire predictions of winter kill fostered by late fertilization, that I parroted their advice to those I coached in gardening.

Yet, I did not follow the rule.

Often, I went my own way because I deal with mixed borders. There, perennials and woodies that "shouldn't" be fertilized during August share root space with plants such as annuals and late-emerging perennials that need fertilizer right through summer. It's impossible to apply fertilizer to any one group without affecting all that's rooted there.

Sometimes, the weather caused my deviation. When rain is heavier than usual during spring -- this year my area had two extra inches of rain during May and June -- essential elements are flushed out of the root zone. They're "leached away" just when plants are leafing out and need nutrients most. Then, trees, shrubs and perennials may limp all year, energy deprived with

from: Time to Tweak

Tweaking consists of removing flowers and disfigured foliage, snipping the tips of plants yet to bloom, thinning crowded stems, supporting top-heavy stalks and making careful additions. You can do most of it with a pair of sharp clippers, some straight sticks and string. We'll start with the tweaking that requires the most thought, which is deadheading.

Clip spent flowers. Be observant.

Keep a plant from ripening seed by deadheading -- removing flowers as they fade. Deadheaded plants are likely to produce more flowers and, sporting more petal color than brown pod, remain more pleasing to the eye.

The trick to deadheading is to take each flower out of the picture while it's still pretty, while the plant is still intent on attracting the pollinators for which it produced those firm, wide, colorful petals. Don't wait too long. Even before petals begin to fall or turn brown, the plant's momentum shifts to seed production.