

What's Coming Up:

Janet Macunovich and Steven Nikkila answer your growing concerns
Issue #166, December 7, 2011

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Surprises in the wildlife that comes to glean the winter garden.
More on pages 10 and 14.

Live Christmas tree homeless after the holidays?

We buy **a tree for the holidays that we can plant** afterward. But this is our sixth or seventh year and we're running out of places to plant them. Are there parks or farms somewhere that would like these trees, for reforestation? - S. C. -

Been there, done that! After many years of tree placement, some of our friends drop into defensive stance and answer very guardedly if we mention having **a tree in need of a home!**

You can certainly check with park managers near you. **Don't get your hopes up**, however. Winter doesn't offer much good planting weather, large transplants that should have regular watering aren't a great fit into natural areas with no irrigation, and park management may be understandably reluctant to undertake administering such a program.

We had balled-and-burlapped trees for our holiday season many times and still recall the strain of muscling such a heavy thing into the house. We can't imagine carrying one cross country through winter snow or mud, following a park service map to a field in need of trees.

Why not **grow them** for five or six years and then let each one do holiday service **once more as a cut tree?** Young conifers make **a good hedge**, becoming less effective with age as they develop increasing space between branches or lose lower limbs. You could have the best from the plants by creating a hedge from which one tree is removed and replaced each year..

Keep a live tree plant-able through the holidays.

- Dig the hole before the ground freezes. Stash bags or buckets of soil in a basement or another place that doesn't freeze, so you will have workable backfill for a wintertime planting.
- Bring the tree in for just a few days; a week, tops. Slip a heavy duty plastic bag around the root ball so you can keep the tree moist.
- When you return the tree to the outdoors, give it time to gradually re-acquire hardiness. Place it for a week or two in the shelter of an unheated garage or shed, or on the north side of a building with bagged leaves tucked all around it.
- Begin watering the tree regularly at the first late winter thaw. Keep the root zone moist for as many years as inches in trunk diameter at planting time. (Two years for a tree with a two-inch diameter trunk.)



Once a live, roots-intact evergreen adjusts to a warm environment, it will take it a week or more in mild cold to reacquire the hardiness it needs to make it through the winter. Cold, but not freezing, temperatures will prompt it to withdraw water from its cells. The cells will be saltier and thus have a lower freezing point. If your live tree was indoors more than a week, it may have been coaxed into breaking bud -- beginning to leaf out. Then you may have to find a place such as a cool greenhouse where it can remain through winter, or simply give up the plan to plant it and grow it on.

Roses think they're royalty, forget it's we peasants who wield the ax

Is it too early to cover roses? We've had snow, but we also still have days when it hits almost 50F, like today. - D.C. -

If you're competitive about clipping the last rose of the season, winterizing your roses now may ruin your chances for a best-ever. Even after several snows this year, we've seen roses still budding up.

However, if you don't care to harvest any more cut flowers, go ahead and put your roses to bed. They needed time and triggers -- short days and freezing weather -- in order to harden off naturally. What they do internally during that natural hardening process means more toward winter survival than anything we do to protect them. Now, they've had weeks of long nights and cold days.

Some rose growers would say you must wait until the weather absolutely stops the plant dead. That's okay for purists. For us, once into December we know the point of no return is nigh... for us! That is, if we wait until it's truly frigid, we might just pass on the chore entirely.

So we've chosen early protection over no protection plenty of times. We've cut and covered still-green roses and buried rose trees with flowers still coming. (Photos on page 3.) Sometimes we

lose roses over winter but as far as we can tell we've had the same live/loss rate with those we've rushed under cover as any others.



It wasn't even December when Janet decided to go ahead and bury the rose tree from a garden she and Deb Hall were tending. (Arrow points to the rose tree, pretty much as it looked moments before burial!)



Deb staged a joking protest, muttering something about 'still beating heart' and 'Edgar Allan Poe'. The rose's root ball is in the foreground.



That rose wintered wonderfully, coming out of its "grave" the next April with foliage intact and looking like we'd buried it just moments before. Then, Janet cut every branch back by two feet so it looked like a hand with knuckles but no fingers, telling the plant as she clipped, "If you thought we were mean to you last fall, how about *this!*"



*The cool night air will do me good...
I must endure the presence of two or three
caterpillars to become acquainted with the
butterflies... As for the large animals -- I am not at
all afraid of any of them. I have my claws.*

- The rose, in her farewell to *The Little Prince* -

Great gifts: Top-notch loppers and other pruning tools

At a Garden By Janet & Steven session I used your Fiskars loppers. They cut branches so easily, so clean! I bought a pair for each of my kids that has a house. Thanks! - S.W. -



We believe in good tools, and that the chance to compare tools is one of the great things about getting together for hands-on work. Thank *you* for confirming that.

Gift giving time is coming up so we've verified supplier information for the pruning tools in our Essential Tools list. Pruning tools follow. The whole list is in issue #134.

We also still want to know where you would like to see us hold our annual winter tool care sessions. (More in *Special Offer*, right.) These are tool cleaning, blade sharpening, mood lifting gatherings where gardeners learn how to and then sit together to spiff up their tools. Sessions are free but for materials costs -- we bring some of the things you may need but not yet have.

We continue our **SPECIAL OFFER** regarding *Garden by Janet and Steven* hands-on sessions this winter.

This year, **locations depend on you!**

These free, hands-on sessions are to **clean and sharpen tools, and prune**. If you think you might join us to prune this winter, or bring your tools to learn to sharpen,

let us know where you are so we can choose the most desirable locations!

We love to travel, so don't hold back. Give us reason to venture further afield!

Send an email to JMaxGarden@aol.com, subject line: I want to Garden by Janet & Steven. In the email tell us what towns are in your home range, and what topics you're interested in.

All you need to prune like a pro

This is the pruning kit we swear by, and URLs for reliable suppliers. Most are also available at garden centers, hardware stores and home stores:



For branches up to the thickness of a finger:

Fiskars Power Gear Bypass Pruner.

They cut easily, fit the average and small hand much better than others, are reasonably priced, and are lightweight with a rotating handle -- features which reduce stress on arm and hand.

<http://www2.fiskars.com/Products/Yard-and-Garden/PowerGear-R-Tools/PowerGear-R-Bypass-Pruner>



For branches too big for hand pruners, to an inch thick:

Fiskars Power Gear Anvil Super Pruner - 15 inch.

Short-handle loppers. Light weight, easy use; the Arthritis Foundation commends them. Unfortunately, these cut against an anvil, which crushes one side of the limb -- not good for the final cut at the branch bark collar which should be a clean cut.

<http://www2.fiskars.com/Products/Yard-and-Garden/PowerGear-R-Tools/PowerGear-R-Anvil-Super-Pruner-15-Inch>

PLUS

Felco long handle loppers

An excellent bypass cutting blade that holds an edge.

<http://www.gemplers.com/product/F21/Felco-21-Lopper-25>



For anything too big for pruners or loppers up to about 4 inches in diameter:

Corona 8" Folding Saw (below, left).

There are many folding saws out there and we've used many. We keep coming back to this one for a durable blade, reliable open/close, and holding a good edge.

http://www.forestry-suppliers.com/product_pages/View_Catalog_Page.asp?mi=1742#



For limbs bigger than 4" in diameter

Curved blade, 'D'-grip or pistol-grip saw (right).

If you have never pruned with a curved-blade saw you have not ever realized how much difference the right tool can make.

(AND/OR professional help!)

<http://karlkuemmerling.com/store/product749.html>



For limbs up to an inch in diameter out of easy reach

Fiskars Pruning Stick Telescoping Tree Pruner



Light weight, great cutting power and which nips rather than hooks over a limb to make its cut, which reduces the chance the cutter will become bound up on a branch. However, throw away the saw unless the work you're doing is demolition, because it nearly impossible to undercut a limb to keep it from tearing, if you cut from below with a pole.

<http://www2.fiskars.com/Products/Yard-and-Garden/Pruning-Stik-R/Pruning-Stik-R-Telescoping-Tree-Pruner-12>

For shearing

ARS 25" Professional Hedge Shear.

We like these for being so well balanced and light, with such good cutting blades.

<http://www.gemplers.com/product/K1000/ARS-25-Professional-Hedge-Shear>



Alone in the Garden? Never! Our mentors are always with us. Tomato tips:

Most of us had a **parent, neighbor or other veteran gardener** to guide us through our first attempts to grow. The **gardening advice they gave us** may include facts that took many years to develop and generations to confirm and tweak.

People who spent a lifetime growing large quantities of a one or two crops may have had 30, 40, or 50 chances to watch those plants. That was 30 - 50 times to judge which did better and what variables influenced them. Even so, several human generations might pass before a given cause and effect might be repeated and also noticed.

Today we grow dozens of different plants in a single garden. We have so much to watch and change the mix so frequently that we may miss many cause-effect connections. We also are probably never driven to learn in the way people were when what they grew was vital for seeing the family through winter.

One of our mentors, Curt Pickens, told us:

We grew tomatoes on the farm where I grew up. Those were hard times in what was hard scrabble country, no money for extras. We kids carried water by bucket, and dipped it out to the plants. I hated to carry the bucket of manure tea, when it came time to fertilize them. I would strip down first or it would slop on my jeans and we couldn't wash clothes that often!



So, I wonder about people and spraying for things like hornworms. There are never that many, they're big so you can just pick them off soon as you see them. And if you don't the birds do. The birds love 'em.

We were reminded of this the other day:

It's good to occasionally step out of your own shoes and take a look at your gardening. At the pet store that day we realized what's pest to us is sustenance to some, and a cash crop to others.

What we saw was a jar of caterpillars. Hornworms! We thought, 'Who'd want to raise those? Impressive moths but you'd have to keep the moth indoors over winter and who wants to go to such trouble to hatch tomato pests?' Then the attendant propped up the sign that had fallen. It read:

*Hornworms,
great for reptiles,
hi-protein,
hi-calcium, low-fat,
\$1 each.*

Is there pass-along gardening wisdom in your hands? Want to pay public homage to your mentors? Tell us about it.

Aiming for Answers: Hits for transplant instructions and winterberry warning

There are no sure bets in dealing with living things, but every situation we face helps us learn more possibilities -- especially when we share with each other what we've observed. So we're always glad to hear whether you used our suggestions, and what happened next. This week we scored two "hits":

... I transplanted two junipers from my folks' house. ...one, about 5' tall that I needed for privacy... is PERFECT! ...The other is... 11', skinny, fits nice near the house and I can see it from my desk. It took me about 3.5 hours to dig each tree out and follow the root system. (You would have been proud!)

I also got the chainsaw out and took down the mulberry tree next to the house... I put the Serbian (spruce) near the area where I removed the mulberry... IT LOOKS GREAT from the house. So I have the Serbian and two junipers decorated with lights and on timers. I am very happy...
- Denise -



Congratulations -- we couldn't have done that work any quicker. And here we thought we'd gained time with experience!

Above: an eight foot falsecypress, just about ready to travel!

Our instructions for transplanting a large plant

(from our Garden By Janet & Steven workshops, and issue #154):

- Begin digging just beyond the plant's drip line.
- Cut the roots cleanly there and make a trench all around the plant.
- Then use hand tools to peel and/or wash soil down into the trench from the top of the root ball.
- Keep peeling, and scooping that soil out of the trench until you can see the top of the root system and also gauge its depth from the inside face of the trench.
- Then, undercut the roots (make the trench deeper and wider if necessary to get an undercutting angle).
- Let more soil crumble away, bending and tying roots out of the way as necessary.
- Finally, use a sharp spade to cut completely under the root ball.
- Tip the partially bare-root plant onto a folded tarp.
- Unfold the tarp, assemble friends to grab the tarp edges and give the heave-ho to slide the plant to its new home.

*When in doubt about
a plant, move it. -
Helen Dillon -*

And to complete this week's Hit double header:

I am happy that someone asked about the legality of cutting winterberry and whether or not it is protected and appreciate your answer.

I grew up in the U.P. (Upper Peninsula of Michigan) and my dad worked for the Parks Division of the Department of Natural Resources for years, so we learned the "Take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but footprints" saying regarding any and all plant material on state owned land (parks, forests, highway medians and embankments, etc). This even applies to standing dead and fallen trees -- they are not free firewood!

I was reminded of this as we drove north over Thanksgiving weekend and there is a seemingly endless amount of winterberry growing all along I75. It looks like it goes on forever but if we each thought "I can take just a little, no one will miss it" there would soon be none left for the wildlife to eat, and for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you as always for your timely, informative newsletter! Always a great read and thoroughly enjoyed!! - D.T. -

You're welcome, D.T. Our folks had a similar saying, used in two situations: When we had a mind to take something from the wild, or toss litter. It was, "Now what if *everyone* did that? Nothing left but a mess!"



Two of favorite places Michigan, from which we've taken many pictures:
Above: Sleeping Bear Dunes National Seashore on the Lake Michigan shore high on the lower peninsula "mitten."
Below: The Escarpment Trail in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness Area, far western Upper Peninsula.



Stumper: We don't like cutworms... as dog treats!

Some problems have no solution. All we can do is to share the pain and ease it a bit with laughter. For instance:

Just read your newsletter which included a note about cutworms. So I cannot resist telling you about my recent discovery. I'm living in Maine (just a little northwest of Portland)*... For the last several weeks my Lab mix dog has been scouring the lawn, sniffing like crazy when I let her out after dark (and ONLY after dark). I would notice her seem to gobble up something every once in a while and go back to sniffing like crazy. (Labs can be a bit obsessive & into eating as you probably know.)

Well, I finally managed to get out of her mouth a specimen of what she was after --- CUTWORMS!! YUCK!!! Now, when a bird eats one it's wonderful. But my dog!!! I am now trying to keep her from doing this. - L.P. -

*See next page

Good luck. Our experience with four Labrador Retrievers over 20 years suggests there's no cure. Many dogs eat first, ask questions later. Yet perhaps there's no harm. This isn't one of the insects that protects itself chemically, by giving its predators sick stomachs. Cutworms use hiding as a defense -- burrowing just below the soil by day. As snacks, they're nutritionally sound, too. (See the *Mentors* department this week, page 6.) Our own Labs have had the stomach to get away with habits a lot higher on the gross-meter.

*Many dogs eat first,
ask questions later.*
- Janet -



Cutworm: Larva of a moth. More in Issue #164.



Far right: We used to wonder what our dogs were after, as they snuffled at the base of the bird feeder. We hoped that bird poo was not the object. Nope. It was the seed they were after.

Here's 'Kiyi -- that's short for Yippeekiyo and descriptive of her general attitude -- sporting some millet on her nose.



*We've had editors delete words from an article as "extraneous detail" and although we pleaded the case it was a lost cause if the editor wasn't also a gardener.

Gardeners know that this field is all about minutiae, and that colorful, visual garden tales keep the most valuable of those in easily recalled bits.

For instance, if someone tells us that their dog eats cutworms, we're going to remember that! If the teller said the dog was doing this in Maine in late November, if we ever need to know how late in the season we -- or anyone up through New England zone 5 -- might expect to be able to make a dent in the cutworm population, well, we have a pretty memorable handle on that fact, don't we?
<http://umaine.edu/publications/2242e/>

Tip cuttings: Growing on from what people are saying this week

So much goes on in email exchanges between newsletters! We wish we could include it all. Excerpts:

The most natural bird feeder

I have a homegrown bird feeder next to my driveway called Pampas grass. It is about 12-15 feet tall and full of seeds. The sparrows and other small birds love it. It is fun to watch them out of my kitchen window. - F.K. -

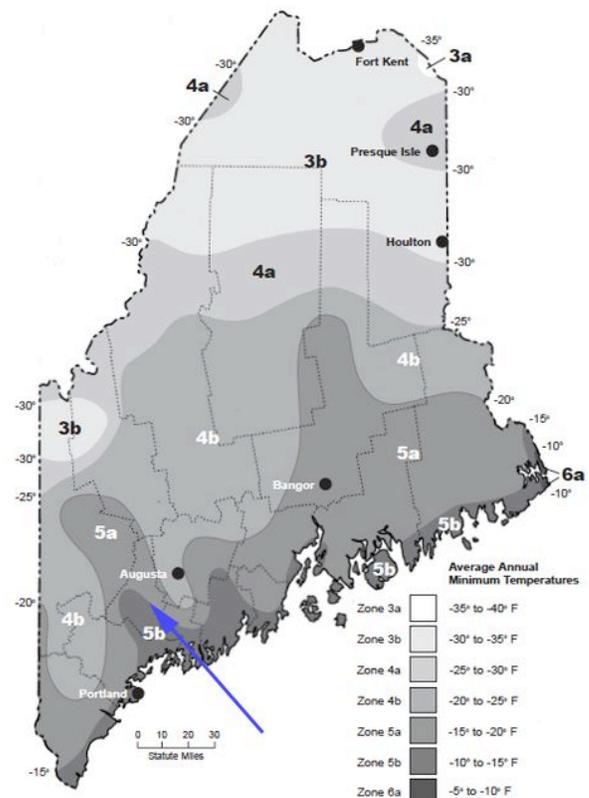
We share your joy in watching the birds in the winter garden. We've seen robins shred the seedheads of our northern pampas grass (*Erianthus ravennae*), then fly away with bits we assume are useful for bedding. Juncos prefer lower plants like fountain grass, hopping from the ground around it to pick at the seed heads. Cardinals are a favorite of our friend M.A., who has a bundle of millet tied into a tree outside her study window that they visit regularly.

September's cut greens on the holiday mantle!

When we pruned together in September, you told me we could put the arborvitae and hemlock branches into plastic bags on the cool garage floor and they'd be good for the holidays. We did it but didn't really believe you until last week when we took them out and shared the greens with friends. They looked like they had been cut the day before! Thanks! - D.C. -



Peacocks scoured our Detroit Zoo garden, recently, poking at grasses, eating *Viburnum* berries, and trailing delighted children in their wake.



This week in our garden

Grow with us! This week:

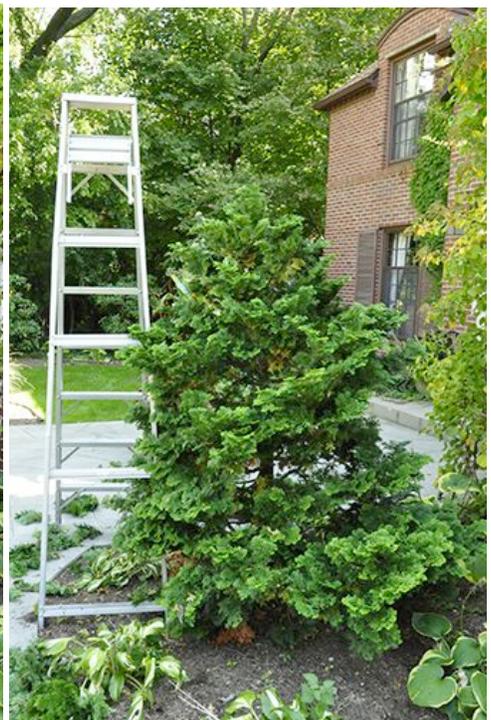
The great thing is that **we don't have to do anything** in the garden now. Yet we do go out when the weather's reasonable. There's always something to see and we can prune, just so long as we stop short of hard clips that would expose inner, still-tender wood to suddenly plunging temperatures.

This week we **pruned a falsecypress to keep its size down**, and to harvest some of its rich, sensuous greens for holiday decorations.

Two Hinoki falsecypresses (*Chamaecyparis obtusa* varieties, probably 'Gracilis') flanking the bay window. They're just big enough, bordering on too big.

This species can reach 100' in the wild. Its dwarf forms have potential ranging from 6 to 60'. Here is one (below), probably another 'Gracilis', that's overgrown its space. It might be reduced by pruning, with skill, over a few years' time.

We'd rather not see our two charges get that large. So in September we cut one to reduce it to where it can grow for about two years before needing another trim.



Right: Starting to prune, and done. Can you see a difference? If you can't tell it was clipped unless you have a yardstick such as the building or a ladder in both "before" and "after" photos, that's good. We want it to retain its natural, irregularly pyramidal shape.



We left its companion unclipped, holding off until winter so we'd be able to renew our stash of fresh cut greens for the New Year.

Once again, after we finished cutting, we wondered, "Does it even show?!"



Now the two are a matched set once again, both dreaming of being all they can be.



Inside, we're enjoying the greenery.

For **broadleaf evergreens** in sites that are exposed to drying wind, or with root balls still too small to provide for the plant through winter, we're setting up wind screens now. You might also **apply anti-desiccant** such as Wilt-pruf or Moisturin on a mild day.

Don't expect miracles from anti-desiccants. They block pores on the leaf surface so that less water can escape on mild winter days -- water that might be irreplaceable while the soil is frozen, and result in scorched leaf edges and dead twigs. Yet they can't do anything to make a plant more hardy. That's a result of genetics and health.

To increase a plant's hardiness, put your effort into watering it well, if it's in a dry place, increasing its light if it's too shaded, or improving the drainage if it's a species such as *Rhododendron* that suffers when there's too much water and too little air around the roots.

Green thumbs up to animal enrichment -- bring some of the outdoors in to your pets. Zookeepers know how important this is, and devote much effort to introducing novelty into captive animals' lives. In our 23 years working in gardens at the Detroit Zoo we've seen that tigers like mint, apes enjoy flowers, wolverines play with cast-off antlers, bison adore mulberry and snow monkeys perk up when they can clamber around in the cut-down remains of a dead tree. The wild things we call family appreciate the same kinds of diversion.

Right: Fraxy examines every new thing that comes in the door and is especially fond of scented greens. Yet we never know which way she'll go. We recently gave her a choice between sumptuous, just-pruned sprays of falsecypress (*Chamaecyparis obtusa*) and a bundle of sea oats (*Chasmanthium latifolium*) with batt-able bangles. She chose the grass.



Left: Buster, on the other hand, is apparently not appreciative of Nature. We're told, "As you can see, I put the Christmas tree in the front window ... thus preventing his Highness from checking out all the happenings in the hood. He is gonna POUT for the next three weeks. How will I survive?" Photo ©2011 J. Kuskowksi

Green thumbs down to razing your garden in winter. It is practical to cut plants down in fall when the cutting is easy and the clearance makes weeding simpler. But you can bundle what you cut and prop it up in the yard, like shocked corn? Birds will be able to glean the seeds and take cover from wind on a bundle's lee side.



Redwing blackbirds (male, left, female, above) are as much a part of our lives and well-being as the plants in our garden. We would be very sad if we stopped hearing that rusty-gate screech of his call, or could no longer watch the young males learn to hide their colors when in others' territories. But where would they be if we cut down all the vegetation they use for nest building and perches?



Who's Janet? Who's Steven?

country, reading, participating in professional symposia, and applying it all in her own and clients' gardens.

The gardener's trainer. For over twenty years Janet Macunovich has been helping gardeners grow through her classes, books and other publications. She shares what she learns in attending classes herself at educational institutions all over the

The gardener's eye. Steven Nikkila is a professional gardener and horticultural photographer who finds dimensions and makes connections others miss. "Maybe it comes from having to sit so still and wait for just the right shot," he says, "but I see the greatest things happen out there. I love to show and tell others about them." One of his favorite instances is the changed outlook people have after seeing his images of a butterfly successfully defending its flowers against a hungry hummingbird (photo, right). His photos have solved mysteries, too, such as when he noted and captured water droplets from a sprinkler glistening prettily on a plant, but obviously on only one side of it. He solved that plant's "unknown ailment" by putting a riser on the sprinkler head to carry its water over the top to wet the entire root zone.



Like this photo? See page 16!

Where to catch Janet and Steven in-person:

Hey, it's Santa's helper Steven, who relays wish lists to Santa from The Village mall of Rochester Hills, Michigan. He also distributes gifts and reads stories to children of all ages at holiday gatherings. He loves this important work as much as gardening. To engage him for your event, call or email 248-681-7850 JMaxGarden@aol.com

Tuesday, January 10, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Janet helps you plan, tend or improve a **Mixed Border**, that garden type which includes all types of flowering plants from bulbs to shrubs. In **Dexter, Michigan**, sponsored by the Dexter Garden Club at the Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Dexter-Ann Arbor Road. Limited seating. Contact jnnwestman@yahoo.com to reserve a seat.

Saturday mornings, January 21 and February 4, 2012, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The 21st annual **Winter Seminar Series** offered by **The Detroit Garden Center** (DGC) at Historic Trinity Church near Detroit's famous Eastern Market. Janet presents *Eight Months of Color* on January 21 and a *Propagation Workshop* February 4. Popular garden educator Cheryl English leads the January 28 session on *Trees, Shrubs and Vines for Your Garden*. You pay a pittance for a great deal of fun and learning, thanks to the generous educational outreach of the volunteers at the DGC. For more information or to reserve a seat for one or all three, contact the DGC at 313-259-6363 or detroitgardenctr@yahoo.com

Saturday, January 28, 2012, Janet & Steven give you design help in **Continuous Color in the Landscape** and share ideas in **50 Favorite Gardens, Before-After** at **A Winter Day in the Garden**. This is a conference sponsored for all gardeners by the Crawford County, Illinois Master Gardeners, in **Robinson, Illinois** at Lincoln Trail College. For registration information, contact hdennis@illinois.edu or 618-546-1549.



See Santa Steven:

At the Rochester Village Mall, Adams Road at University, Rochester Hills, Michigan

Saturday, Dec. 17, 11 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 18, 2:30 - 6 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 19, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 22, 3 - 7 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 23, 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

If you would like to have Santa Steven make an appearance at your holiday get-together, call or email 248-681-7850 or JMaxGarden@aol.com

Invite Janet or Steven or their expert friends to your club or community.

We go where we're invited! That's taken us all over the country and then some over the past 20 years. We address many topics, drawing from our list of **100+ talks**. We also continue **to meet groups' needs** by developing new material or "hybridizing" from what we already have.

So, whether it's...

- a **how-to lesson for a garden club** meeting,
- a **hands-on workshop** at a site of your choosing or
- a **multi-part class** for a small group,

...we're game!

We can also connect you to one or a whole line-up of other experts who know how to explain how-to. So give us a **call or send an email** to make a date, request our list of classes and talks or get a referral. **JMaxGarden@aol.com or 248-681-7850**. Our calendars fill about a year in advance for spring weekends, and six months ahead for most other weekends and evenings. So give us some lead time. Then we can meet you in *your* garden.

Steven Nikkila and Janet Macunovich (above, left) have been digging, shooting and teaching how-to for 22 years. They began producing conferences in the early '90s and then ran a gardening school for 12 years, featuring expert instructors who knew their stuff in the garden as well as knowing how to get their messages across in front of a group. Janet and Steven are glad to help you themselves or refer you to these others to meet your group's need. Contact them at JMaxGarden@aol.com or 248-681-7850 when you want to set up a talk, workshop or class.



Time to garden your walls...

Steven's decorated many walls with great garden and Nature images. He can help you do the same with photos that capture the garden beauty you love, framed or on canvas to your specifications.

You can own any of Steven's images from *What's Coming Up*.^{*} Or if you have a flower, type of scene or hue in mind you can request your dream. His library includes tens of

thousands of plants and natural images, so Steven can assemble a customized photo sampler for you. Email us at JMaxGarden@aol.com for details, to request a sampler or to place an order.

Prices for **Steven's garden art** vary with your wishes in format and size. Examples:

Matted, framed, overall 11 x 15", \$48

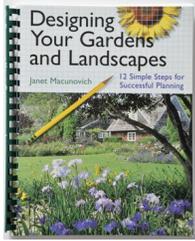
36 x 48' no-fade **cloth tapestry**, \$215

Describe your dream image or color to Steven at JMaxGarden@aol.com. He'll send you a photo sampler and price list.

^{*}Images in our newsletter are depicted in low-resolution to facilitate e-mail transmission. Steven's originals and art created from them are full resolution, with so much clear detail they are sharp even as wall-size cloth banners.



You asked for our advice "on paper". We wrote and sell these books plus CDs:



Designing Your Gardens and Landscapes

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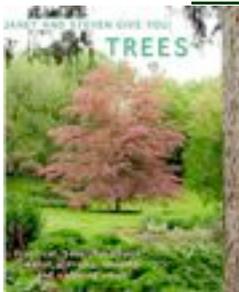
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