

Lawn & Garden Guide 2016

INFORMATIVE ARTICLES

AROUND THE YARD

Easy Clean Up, Planting
and Mulching

IN THE GARDEN

Planting and Gardening Tips

LAWN CARE

Great Cost-Effective Ways
To Tend Your Lawn

A Beautiful Garden Starts at Martin's



- * Hanging Baskets
- * Vegetable Plants
- * Bedding Plants
- * Herbs
- * Seeds
- * Seed Potatoes
- * Onion Sets
- * Bagged Soils and Mulches

~ COUPON ~

\$10 Off

a Purchase of \$50 or More
Bedding, Vegetable, or Herb Plants.

Good only at Martin's Farm Market. Not valid with any other offers, sales or prior purchases. One coupon per customer per visit. Not valid with Myerstown Sheds. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Expires 5/30/16 WP

Martin's
Farm Market
"A Unique Country Store"

744 S. Rt. 183, Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
1/2 Mi. N. of Lake Wynonah; 2 Mi. S. of 183/443 Intersection
www.martinsfarmmarket.com
martinsmarket@truevine.net

570-739-2600
Major Credit Cards Accepted

Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 6 am to 7 pm;
Fri. 6 am to 8 pm; Sat. 7 am to 5 pm

Find Us On Facebook!

CHRISTMAN'S DRIVEWAY SEALING, INC.
— is Now —
FAUST DRIVEWAY SEALING, INC.
Owner - Barry Faust

RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL LOTS

Same Quality Work • Same Reasonable Prices

FREE Estimates CALL 570-386-2025

Serving All of Berks and Schuylkill Counties PA117521

How To Tend To An Indoor Herb Garden

Fresh herbs and recently picked ingredients can add flavor to any meal. A home chef can even improve the flavor of store-bought or prepared foods with an herb garnish that can transform otherwise bland dishes into something you'll want to eat again and again.

Harvesting fresh herbs is easy for homeowners who have gardens right in their backyards. However, everyone does not have a backyard, and even those that do might find their gardens threatened by changing seasons or unwanted critters. When gardens are moved indoors, the bounty of fresh ingredients continues no matter the date on the calendar.

Herb gardens are perhaps some of the easiest gardens to cultivate indoors because they don't require large pots or much space. The plants themselves are relatively compact, and it only takes a pinch of herbs to give a meal some extra flavor. When growing herbs indoors, your indoor growing area must have adequate light to simulate the longer days of summer; otherwise, the plants may go dormant. It's ideal to have a southern exposure on the herbs, with at least eight hours of sunlight per day. If you do not live in a particularly sunny locale, consider supplementing the plants with grow lights, which will provide the full spectrum of light the plants need to thrive.

Indoor air can become too dry for herbs, so you will need to compensate by providing humidity. While there may be added humidity in a kitchen greenhouse window, it still may not be enough to keep the plants healthy. Think about misting the plants daily to create some extra humidity, or place herb pots on top of a water-filled tray with pebbles so the evaporating water will add moisture without making the roots soggy. Insects are another threat to indoor gardens because there is no cold weather to inhibit the hatching of insect eggs. Soil from outdoors may be more susceptible to insects that are already living in the dirt. Instead of soil from outside, use packaged soil or a nonsoil alternative that will hold moisture without the added risk of bugs. If small insects appear, use a mist of soapy water to kill the bugs

without harming the plants or making the herbs unfit for eating.

Group herbs together according to their watering needs to make maintenance that much easier. New sprouts generally need more water than established plants.

Prune the herbs as needed for recipes. If the herbs experience



a growth spurt, trim some of the plants and freeze the herbs for later use.

Many indoor herb gardeners begin by growing parsley, chives, oregano, and basil, but you can experiment with just about any herb

A sunny location is necessary when cultivating an indoor herbs garden.



Mower Recycler
Recycle Your Old Lawn Equipment



**Buying New Riding Mower?
Let Me Help You Recycle The Old!**

Riding Mowers, Tractors, Go Carts, Minibikes,
Snowblowers - Any Condition.
Berks & Surrounding Areas
610-944-3047
www.mower-recycler.com
Free Removal • Quick Friendly Service

**Attention All Contractors!!
Immediate Insurance Coverage**

How Much??? Call Now!!!

★ Lowest Cost	610-916-3101	★ 3 Years Experience
★ Quick Easy Issue	610-916-3111	★ No Claims
	610-916-3107	

INSURANCE OFFICES, Ltd.
5445 Pottsville Pike, Leesport, PA 19533

Sproesser's

Lawn Care Inc.

MULCH

TOPSOIL

PLAYGROUND MULCH

805 Zion's Church Road, Hamburg

610-562-5520 • 610-562-5808

Lawn Care Mulch

For your complete
Residential and Commercial Landscaping needs:
Landscaping Designs and Installation
Walks ~ Patios
Retaining Walls ~ Mowing
Spring and Fall Cleanup

DELIVERY ONLY

Buildings by

WOOD ORIGINALS!

- **SERVICE & EXPERIENCE**
Wood Originals has been serving customers since 1990. We will be happy to come with you to your building site, sit down with you and review your ideas, and offer suggestions.
- **WORKMANSHIP**
Our buildings are built by our employees, many of which have been with us for years. We back our buildings with a 2-5 year workmanship warranty.
- **QUALITY MATERIALS**
We offer a concrete column post which eliminates wood posts in ground as well as many other options.




Bethel, PA • 1-888-553-5309 • SINCE 1990

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • EQUESTRIAN • SPECIALIZING IN POST FRAME CONSTRUCTION

Visit Our Website To View Our Photo Gallery
www.woodoriginalsinc.com

HIC#PA018496 PA NFA

S724944

LEESPORT FARMERS MARKET

EVERY WEDNESDAY 8 A.M. to 7 P.M.
 Flea Market 7:00 A.M. • Livestock Auction 1:00 P.M.
 P.O. BOX 747 • LEESPORT, PA 19533 • 610-926-1307
 NORTH END OF LEESPORT, TURN EAST OFF ROUTE 61
www.leesportmarket.com

Visit Us For Your Gardening Needs
 Vegetable & Bedding Plants
 Hanging Baskets
 Perennials ~ Annuals
 Potted Plants & Nursery Stock

SUNDAY, MAY 1
Flea Market 7 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Home Party Show 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
 Over 200 Sheltered & Unsheltered Vendors Expected.
 Flea Market Every 1st & 3rd Sunday thru December 4th.

★ SPRING CRAFT FAIR ★
Saturday, May 7, 2016 - 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
 Rain or Shine • Free Admission & Parking

Create A Budget-Friendly Home Landscape

Homeowners understandably envy the award-worthy photo spreads in lawn and garden magazines, wanting to emulate those same looks on their own properties. Scores of designers and landscape architects are involved in the process of creating those amazing lush lawns and perfectly placed plantings. Although not every homeowner has the budget to create lavish landscape designs, it's still possible for homeowners to create lawns they can be proud of.

- Establish your budget. The first step in any project is to determine how much money you can devote to the job. Once you have established the budget, all other factors can be built around it.
- Find an inspiration piece. Great landscapes are inspired by many things, whether it's a memorable piece of art or a landscape layout in a lawn and gardening magazine. Use photos of other gardens or neighbors' yards as inspiration and build off of them. As long as the theme is cohesive, it will look pleasing to the eye.

Consider the space and how you want to use it. Understanding the space will help you better allocate your budget. If your yard is more of a retreat, look for ways to create privacy and a vacation feel. If you have kids and entertaining friends is a main priority, focus on recreational aspects, such as a pool, playset and some durable plants. Understanding how to allocate your budget will help you to avoid spending money frivolously.

- Think about reclaimed or repurposed materials. Brand new items can quickly eat up a budget. However, repurposing salvaged or inexpensive items can stretch that budget while adding some unique flair to a landscape. See if you can find an outdoor patio set that someone is giving away or selling for a lower price. All it takes is a coat of paint and some new cushions to make it look like new. Discarded bricks or stones can be worked into a patio space or used to create raised garden beds. Purchase inexpensive flower pots and

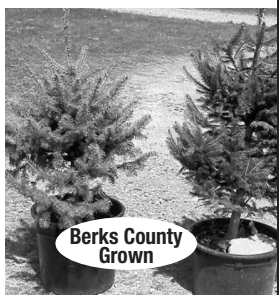
YENSER'S TREE FARM

\$20.00 to \$25.00
Freshly Dug Pine Trees

2 1/2 to 4 1/2 foot
 Easy To Handle and Plant

Norway Spruce
Blue Spruce

1821 Old Rt. 22, Lenhartsville, PA
 610.562.7879



then paint them to make them look like stone or another desired material.

- Buy native plants. Native plants, shrubs, trees, and flowers will fare better than non-native, exotic plants. That means you'll have to spend less time and money nurturing them into health, and less money having to replace plants that cannot withstand your climate.
- Consider perennial plants. Perennials may cost more at the outset, but the savings will be realized in the years to come.
- Hire a professional. It may seem counterintuitive to spend

money on a landscaping professional when you've established a strict budget, but that's one way to save money. Landscape artists or garden designers have the experience to guide you in the right direction and help you avoid potentially costly mistakes.

- Use gravel in spots where plants don't thrive. Gravel is an inexpensive landscaping material that can fill in voids where plants or ground cover simply do not flourish. Those working on limited budgets may be happy to learn gravel is typically less expensive than concrete or pavers.
- Ask friends or family for clippings. Don't be shy about admiring the plantings of those you know. Flatter their good taste and ask if you can have some clippings to propagate yourself. These clippings can



turn into lush plants in no time, with no additional spending required. one can create a beautiful landscape.

With some frugal spending, planning and budgeting, any-

Spring Cleanup

- Mowing
- Mulching
- Pruning
- Paver Patios

- Walks
- Walls
- Ponds
- Landscape Installs

Home Scape
 610-562-8700

Model 440 Articulating 4x4

Front Mounted 4, 5 & 6 ft. Decks
 Flip up for easy maintenance.

School Districts, Townships, State & County Parks, Etc. Can Purchase Under PA State Contract!

FINANCE PLANS AVAILABLE



Trencher



Cab & Snowblower



Rototiller



Rotary Sweeper



Core Aerator

Above are just some of the 20 attachments available for the Steiner.

The new 440 offers many new features including a foot pedal for forward and reverse operation, repositioned hand controls, new hydraulic system, stronger axles, more horsepower, folding rOPS bar (standard), 2" receiver hitch (standard), seven-position seat adjustment that lowers as it moves forward, newly designed dash, four halogen headlights, 40-amp charging system (standard), stronger battery, electric clutch for PTO engagement (standard). Same quick-hitch system for the many front-mounted attachments.

**MOW – BLOW – TRENCH
 HAUL – DRILL – TILL
 THE "STEINER" DOES IT ALL**

ROY'S STEINER SALES

151 Sousley Road, Lenhartsville, PA 19534
 610.756.6150 • Cell 610.217.6446
steiner151@verizon.net

**NEW Model 235
 with 25 HP Kubota
 Diesel Engine.**



Fully hydrostatic unit. Front-wheel drive, rear-wheel steer. Foot pedal for F&R. Unit accepts many of the "Quick Hitch" front mounted "Steiner" attachments.

Spring Building Specials!



24x30x10 ... \$7,300	30x64x10 ... \$13,850
24x40x10 ... \$8,500	30x48x12 ... \$12,600
30x30x10 ... \$8,300	40x60x14 ... \$19,100
36x48x10 ... \$13,400	40x80x14 ... \$23,600



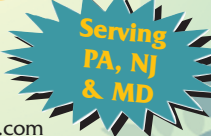
LIMITED TIME OFFER - CALL FOR DETAILS!!
 Spring Special Prices Valid Thru May 15, 2016
 Prices Include Materials, Delivery, Tax and Labor
 Within 75 Miles of Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
 Many Other Stock and Custom Sizes To Choose From



POST FRAME PRECISION

POLE BUILDINGS
 1-877-POLEBARN
 1-877-765-3227

www.postframeprecision.com | www.pfpolebuildings.com



Your Full Service Building Contractor!



**In House
Architectural Designs
Post Frame &
Conventional Framed
Construction**

**Garages - Pool Houses
Commercial Warehousing
Equipment Storage
Horse & Bank Barns -**

**Pavilions - New Homes - Home
Additions - Kitchens - Baths - New Roofing & Repairs
Interior/Exterior Home Makeovers - Concrete Work
Excavation - Septic Systems - Demolition - Site Work**



Call Us For All Your Building Needs!

MARTIN

CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

www.mccbuild.com & martinconstructionco.com

14588 Kutztown Road

Fleetwood, PA 610-683-6120

PA8177

Protect the People and Things You Love!

We know your family and possessions are precious to you. Did you ever stop to think that they could be gone in a few minutes time?

With a "Total Security" system from Security Service Company, what's most important to you can be monitored 24 hours a day - ensuring an immediate response to threats from fire, natural gas, carbon monoxide, intrusion and more.

SECURITY
SERVICE COMPANY
"Security Beyond Peace of Mind™"

110 West Arch St., Suite 200 • Fleetwood, PA 19522
Phone and Fax - Toll Free - 800.232.2500
SecurityBeyondPeaceOfMind.com

VitalLink
Monitoring

FREE
On-site evaluation
for your home or business -
without obligation. Call today!
(800) 232-2500

**Low
Installation
and Monthly
Monitoring
Fees**

Great Selection of Perennials

All Zoned To Our Area

Many Varieties To Add To Your Favorite Garden Spot

Herbs
Yummy
Selection

**Tomato
Cages**

**Empty Pots
& Planters**

Fairy Garden Supplies & Mini Plants

Coco Liner Replacements for Wire Planters

Fencing for Commercial & Residential Use

E.P. Henry and Versa Lok Products

Full Line of Nursery & Bedding Plants

**Seeds
&
Seedling
Supplies**

House Plants
Boston Fern Hanging
Baskets & Many More
varieties of House Plants
(Arriving 4-28)

**Bulk &
Bagged
Mulch,
Stone
& Soil**

**PINE CREEK
COUNTRY
GARDENS**

& Landscaping
Rte. 443, 1425 Long Run Road,
Friedensburg, PA • 570-739-1140
www.pinecreekcountrygardens.com

Friend us on facebook

April Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8-6; Sat. 8-4; Sun. 10-4



Add Curb Appeal To Your Property

Many people are familiar with the idea that a strong first impression can go a long way. While that idea is most often referenced in regard to personal interactions, it's also applicable to real estate.

When selling a home, homeowners who emphasize curb appeal may find it far easier to sell their homes. Curb appeal was one of the most important factors when selling a home. Projects that improve curb appeal can be vast undertakings or simpler projects, and the following are a handful of projects to improve a home's curb appeal that run the gamut from simple to complex.

- Clean up the yard. Cleaning up the yard is among the simpler yet most effective projects to improve a home's curb appeal. When selling their homes, homeowners should clear the yard of any clutter, including kids' toys, grass clippings or items that might be scattered throughout the yard. A cluttered yard suggests homeowners do not care much about their home's appearance, and that may lead buyers to think that indifference extended to maintaining the home's interior as well. Many buyers will ignore properties without any

external aesthetic appeal, but cleaning up the yard does not require much effort or expense on the part of sellers.

- Make the main entryway more inviting. Creating a more inviting entryway won't be as simple as cleaning up the yard, but it can help create a strong first impression without breaking the bank. To begin, remove plants and furniture from the front porch or area surrounding the doorway, as such items can create a cluttered feel. If the front door is old, replace it. Custom doors may be expensive, but they might add the wow factor buyers are looking for. If a new door is beyond your means or just unnecessary, repaint the door, ideally in a color that complements the color of your home and the surrounding landscape.

- Address pavement problems. Paving problems are not necessarily an expensive fix, but the cost of repairing driveways and walkways can add up if it's been awhile since these areas were refurbished. Still, one of the first things buyers will notice when getting out of their cars is the ground they're walking on, so patch and repair or even replace driveways and walkways that have fallen into disrepair.

- Add or upgrade outdoor living spaces. Outdoor living spaces also can set a property apart from others on the market. A recent study from the National Association of Realtors found that buyers would not hesitate to pay asking price for homes with outdoor living spaces. When adding or upgrading outdoor living spaces, try to de-personalize the spaces as much as possible, as buyers want to picture themselves, and not the sellers, enjoying these areas. Include some comfortable furniture, adequate lighting and a dining area in your outdoor living space as well. Curb appeal can add a lot to a home, while lack of such appeal can make a home difficult to sell. Homeowners who want to sell their properties for asking price or more should address curb appeal before putting their homes on the market.

Reduce Pesticide Pollution At Home

Commercial farms are often blamed for the vast array of contaminants that find their way into water supplies and the soil itself. But home-gardening enthusiasts may also be contaminating water and soil through the use of pesticides. Data from Green-NetWorld, an environmental advocacy group, indicates Americans use approximately 2.2 billion pounds of pesticides every year. Pesticide use is a prolific problem. More than 100 active pesticide ingredients are suspected of causing cancer, gene mutations and birth defects. In addition, a growing list of pesticides may disrupt the immune and endocrine systems and have long-term impacts on infants and young children. Research indicates that many pests targeted by pesticides will eventually develop resistance to these pesticides, rendering the chemicals useless.

One way to reduce chemical pollution at home is to find alternatives to pesticides.

- **INVESTIGATE REDUCED-RISK PESTICIDES.** The United States Environmental Protection Agency is examining pesticides that pose less risk to humans and the environment than existing pesticides.

- **USE BIOPESTICIDES.** Biological products, also known as biopesticides, can play a role in a more sustainable food chain. These control agents include fungi, bacteria or viruses and can be applied like chemical pesticides but do not leave toxic residues. Furthermore, they are relatively inexpensive to produce.

- **LOOK TO THE KITCHEN.** Dish soap can be an effective pest killer. Fill a spray bottle with soapy water and spray around the exterior of your

house and on plants that have a pest problem. The soapy water can kill ants and roaches. It also can coat the wings of small flying insects. Catnip is another natural pesticide. Planting catnip in a garden can repel mosquitoes.

- **USE EPSOM SALT.** Sprinkling this salt on the leaves of plants in the garden can keep away animals, such as deer or groundhogs, that would otherwise devour plants. Epsom salt also can repel beetles, slugs and snails.

Before homeowners turn to chemical pesticide applications, they can explore many natural remedies to keep unwanted pests at bay.



SNAPPER

**SNAPPER
P2187520 3 in 1**

**21" 190cc Hi-Vac Self-Propelled
Lawn Mower \$629**

- More Efficient Bagging System
- 190cc Briggs & Stratton 875 Pro Series ReadyStart™ Engine
- Disc Drive, Self-Propelled, Rear Wheel Drive System
- Grass Gripper Mower Traction
- 21-Inch Hi-VAC® 3-In-1 Steel Mowing Deck
- 2.5 Bushel Rear Door Grass Bag



- Riders
- Tractors
- Walk-Behind
- Self-Propelled
- Push
- Rototillers

ECHO

- Chain Saws
- Leaf Blowers
- String Trimmers

COLUMBIA

**COLUMBIA
CR30
30" Cutting Deck
Lawn Tractor**

- Powermore® OHV 420-cc engine
- Single Cylinder
- 6 Speed Transmission
- Step-Through Design
- 18" Turning Radius
- Mid-back Seat
- 30" Side Discharge, Single Blade
- 13" x 5" (front) / 16" x 6.5" (rear) **\$1199**



**WIC'S MOWER
SALES and SERVICE**

Sales...Service...Parts
530 Park Road, Fleetwood 610-944-9270

"We don't care where you bought it."



Homeowners Landscapers



We Have
Lawn Mower and
Garden Tractor

- Batteries
- Spark Plugs
- Battery Cables
- Motor Oil
- 2-Cycle Oil
- Oil Filters
- Starter Fluid
- Stabilizer
- Enzyme Treatment
- and more

Temporary Hours thru April 29
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
Sat. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



515 Hawk Ridge Dr.
Hamburg, PA 19526 610-562-7838

HOURS: Monday to Friday 8 AM - 7 PM;
Saturday 8 AM to 5 PM; Closed Sunday

Breeze Through Your Spring Projects!

RENTING.

So smart, so easy.

RENT: Aerators, Leaf Blowers, Trenchers, Backhoes, Saws, Dethatchers, Tillers, Post Hole Augers, Soil Compactors, Chippers, And More!

WE HAVE THE RIGHT EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR DIY PROJECT.

You've been itching to start those spring projects. Having the right tool for the job will make them easier. When you rent from Stoney Creek Rentals, you'll find hundreds of tools for both indoor and outdoor projects. And a knowledgeable staff will show you how to get the job done right.

TOOL & EQUIPMENT RENTALS SALES • SERVICE

STONEY CREEK RENTALS

We Sell Propane

www.stoneycreekrentals.com
872 Park Road, Blandon, PA 19510 • 610-926-4567
Business Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7 AM to 5 PM; Sat. 7 AM to 2 PM

Patio Cleanup For Seasonal Entertaining

Outdoor entertaining is a primary component of the warm-weather season. Individuals flock to their backyard patios and decks to barbecue or simply soak up a little sun. Over the course of the fall and winter your patio may have experienced some wear and tear. Or if the patio is several

years old, it may need some maintenance to improve its appearance for the new season. Maintenance often depends on the material used. Before starting, figure out what your patio needs and stock up on the supplies. Many patios are poured concrete, and a simple pressure-washing could be all

that's needed to revive the look. Pressure washers can be rented or purchased. If there are cracks or chips in the patio, some minor patchwork may be able to fix unsightly problems. There are fast-dry patching kits. If the patio is especially damaged, it may be in your best interest to simply replace the patio or cover it with a different material, like wood decking.

Some patios are constructed from paving stones. Pavers are usually installed atop a thin layer of sand and then more sand is brushed into the seams between the pavers to set them in place. Over time, the sand may become dislodged causing the pavers to wobble or even grow uneven. Taking the time to brush new sand over a paver patio can keep the stones stable. Because pavers are not a solid surface, weeds can grow in between the stones. Hand weeding and the application of a weed-killing product can help with keeping weeds at bay and from being unsightly. This year, maybe it's not about refreshing the patio but installing one instead. Although many homeowners choose to make

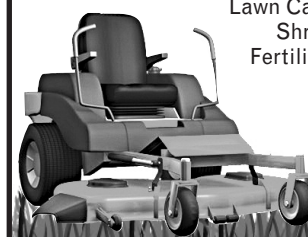
the installation of a patio a do-it-yourself project with fine results, if you have a large yard or an intricate design, you may want to price out masons. These contractors could have relationships with suppliers of concrete and patio pavers, which could save on the cost of materials for the job. Plus you will have the benefit of knowing the work was done correctly.

Now is also the time to wash the cushions to your patio set to enhance your patio decor. Do so on a sunny, warm day to allow the cushions to dry adequately so they won't develop mildew or mold staining and odor. If the cushions look dated or beyond repair, this season could be a good time to head to the store and purchase a new set. Nothing refreshes a patio more than bright colors and attractive accessories. While new planters filled with flowers could do the trick, coordinate patio colors with new upholstery for outdoor furniture, throw pillows and a new patio umbrella to complete the look.

The spring season is the time to refresh the patio by cleaning and updating furniture.

TOM SUESS LAWN CARE

Lawn Care, Landscape, Mulch & Topsoil, Shrubbery Trimming, Planting, Fertilizing, Walls & Patios and more (full service)



TOM SUESS
Owner / fully insured

129 Bewley Lane,
Reading, PA 19605

Home: 610-926-7934
Cell: 610-780-7580



KAREN R. MOHN

GARDENS BY KAREN

Personal care for your gardens

138 Farview Road
Hamburg, Pa. 19526

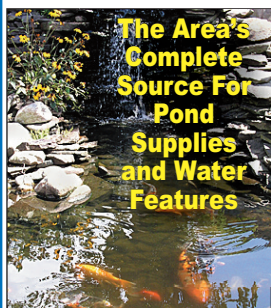
610.207.6851

karenrmohn@gmail.com

AQUATIC CONCEPTS

11 Lutz Road, Kutztown, PA 19530 610-285-2209
www.aquaticconcepts.com

Water Gardening... Largest Selection of Liners, Pumps, Filters & Skimmers, Water Features, Fish Food, Filter Media, UV & Underwater Lights, Maintenance Supplies, Goldfish & Koi, Aquatic Plants, Tadpoles & Snails



The Area's Complete Source For Pond Supplies and Water Features

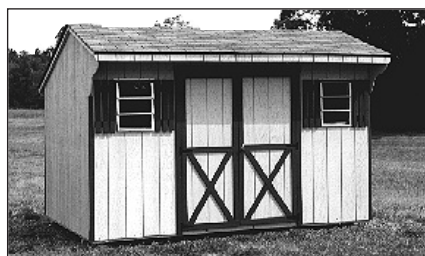
Huge Discounts On:

- All Palletized and Bagged Stone
- All Fountains, Birdbaths, Statuary
- All Preformed Ponds
- All Granite & Natural Stone Benches and Décor
- All Bubbling Rock Fountain Kits
- Selected Pond Equipment including Skimmers, Pumps, Biofalls

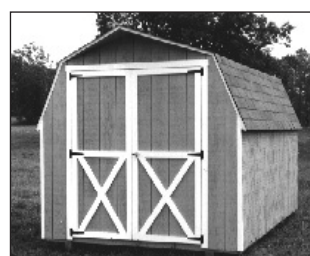
HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 10-6; Sat. 10-5
Closed Sun. & Mon.

Take old Rt. 22W. 7 mi. from Fogelsville or E. 2 mi. from Krumsville. Turn by Highland Estates (Lutz Rd.). Watch for sign on right.

Quality-Built SHEDS FOR LESS



Quaker Shed



Mini Barn

We personally deliver all sheds and pass the savings to you!

- 23 sizes ranging from 4'x6' to 12'x28' or custom-built to your needs
- Many styles to choose from
- Pressure treated 4x4 runners with wood siding (vinyl siding available)
- 2x4 construction
- We will custom-mix any color for your shed
- Windows are standard in all sheds
- We have models in stock for immediate delivery

FREE DELIVERY

Within a 20-Mile Radius
Reasonable Fee Outside 20-Mile Radius
Existing Sheds Moved!



STORAGE CONTAINERS FOR RENT

- Delivered To Your Site
- 20 Ft. & 40 Ft. Sizes
- Low Monthly Rates

Also Available: Utility Trailers (all sizes) • Tow Dollies • Chicken Coops • Dog House • Kennels
Before You Buy, Check Our Everyday Low Prices!!

Rent To Own 24/36 Month Plans Available. No Credit Check. Stop In For Details.

KUZAN'S HARDWARE AND RENTAL CENTER 610-562-7186
1069 Pottsville Pike, Rt. 61, Shoemakersville, PA 19555
www.kuzanshardware.com • Mon. - Fri. 7:30 AM to 7 PM; Sat. 7:30 AM to 5 PM



Financing Available

We Accept: Discover, Visa, MasterCard, American Express

BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value. **STIHL** Stihl Dealer



Heating & Cooling, Inc.

Specializing in
All Types of
Plumbing,
Heating,
Cooling,
Electrical Service

- 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- LICENSED AND INSURED
- FREE ESTIMATES
- WATER CONDITIONING
- REMODELING/NEW CONSTRUCTION
- WELL PUMP SERVICE & INSTALLATION

61 PRICETOWN ROAD • FLEETWOOD, PA 19522
610-683-5465 Fax: 610-683-3296



X330 Select Series™

DEERE SEASON

Starting at **\$2,999^s**

- 20 hp* (14.9 kW, 724 cc)
- NEW 42-in. Accel Deep™ Deck
- 4-year/300-hour limited warranty**

**RIGHT CUT.
RIGHT PRICE.
RIGHT NOW.**



D105 LAWN TRACTOR

- 17.5 hp* (13.0 kW, 500 cc)
- 42-in. mower deck
- 2-year/120-hour bumper-to-bumper warranty**

STARTING AT \$1,499^s



Z335E ZTRAK™ MOWER

- 20 hp* (14.9 kW, 656 cc)
- NEW 42-in. Accel Deep Deck
- 7.0-mph mowing speed
- 2-year/120-hour bumper-to-bumper warranty**

STARTING AT \$2,499^s



Kermit K. Kistler, Inc.

7886 Kings Hwy/Route 143, New Tripoli, PA 18066
610-298-2011 | www.kermitkistler.com | kinc@ptd.net
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 am to 5 pm; Sat. 8 am to 12 pm



*Prices and models may vary by dealer. Manufacturer suggested list price at \$2,999 on X330 Select Series, \$1,499 on D105 and \$2,499 on Z335E. Prices are suggested retail prices only and are subject to change without notice at any time. Dealer may sell for less. Shown with optional equipment not included in the price. Attachments and implements sold separately. Available at participating dealers.
*The engine horsepower and torque information for non-Deere engines are provided by the engine manufacturer to be used for comparison purposes only. Actual operating horsepower and torque will be less. Refer to the engine manufacturer's website for additional information.
**Term limited to years or hours used, whichever comes first, and varies by model. See the LIMITED WARRANTY FOR NEW JOHN DEERE TURF AND UTILITY EQUIPMENT at JohnDeere.com/Warranty or JohnDeere.ca/TUWarranty for details. Before operating or riding, always refer to the safety and operating information on the vehicle and in the operator's manual. John Deere's green and yellow color scheme, the leaping deer symbol and JOHN DEERE are trademarks of Deere & Company.

A0003KKCU2A66450-00021845

Identifying Problems That Can Threaten Lush Lawns

Landscaping can be a rewarding hobby that instills a sense of pride in homeowners. Whether you prefer to get your hands dirty planting perennials or devote the bulk of your attention to crafting a lush, green lawn, chances are you will run into a problem during lawn and garden season. Some problems are easy to identify, while others are more complex. The following are a handful of diseases homeowners may encounter when spending time on maintaining their lawns and gardens over the next several months. ANTHRACNOSE is a term used to describe various diseases that produce a host of unsightly symptoms. Those symptoms include tan to brown leaf spots or blotches; distorted, cupped or curled leaves; irregular defoliation, such as leaves

falling in spring; and dieback, a condition in which trees or shrubs begin to die from the tips of their leaves or roots backward. Permanent damage due to anthracnose is rare, but the diseases can weaken trees over time and that can leave them vulnerable to pest infestations. BROWN PATCH is unsightly and most likely to occur during summer. According to the Penn State Center for Turfgrass Science, perennial ryegrass, tall fescue and bentgrasses are the grass species most susceptible to brown patch. When a lawn is suffering from brown patch, its leaves and stems die out in large, circular patches. In high-cut grasses, these patches can stretch from a few inches to several feet. Tall fescue grasses may not exhibit symptoms of brown patch in patches. In such instances, the brown patch may

be noticeable on individual leaves that feature tan or light brown lesions, and the Center for Turfgrass Science notes that these lesions will be surrounded by dark brown borders. DOLLAR SPOT: The American Phytopathological Society notes that dollar spot refers to a disease of the leaves of turfgrass. Grasses suffering from dollar spot will have white to straw-colored lesions that progress downward from the leaf tip or laterally across leaf blades. Leaf blades affected by dollar spot may have several small lesions or one large lesion, and in some instances, the entire leaf blade may be affected. Turfgrass affected by dollar spot may be susceptible to weed invasions. SUMMER PATCH is most common in warm climates and is characterized by yellow to straw-colored patches that can be several inches or several feet in diameter. According to Scotts Lawnservice, summer patch is often linked to shallow root systems that result from poor soil conditions. Large swaths of grass suffering from summer patch can be an eyesore, appearing as though the grass has burned under the summer sun. Lawns, gardens, trees and shrubs are susceptible to the elements. Identifying lawn diseases quickly can help homeowners find solutions before the problems escalate.



Why Hiring A Landscaper May Be For You

The majority of homeowners want their properties to appear as appealing as possible. While many homeowners want to be proud of their properties and come home to a welcoming home each night, the benefits to maintaining landscaping go beyond the notion that well-cared for lawns make for more comforting retreats. Because numerous variables, including landscaping, influence property values, it's difficult to assess just how much the property values of homes with impressive landscapes are influenced by those very landscapes. Indeed, studies have produced varying results regarding the effect of well-landscaped homes on property values. But what many studies have shown and what many realtors indicate is that impressive landscaping adds a significant amount to property values, with estimates suggesting landscaping increases home values by anywhere from 5 to 20 percent. Such estimates are good news for homeowners, and they also highlight the stakes involved when making landscaping decisions. Homeowners with green thumbs may embrace the challenge of revitalizing their lawns and gardens, but many, especially those pressed for time, can benefit greatly from working with professional landscapers. WHY HIRE A PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPER?

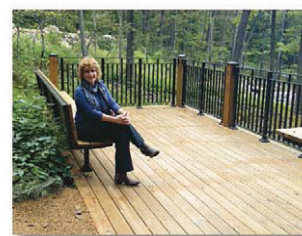
Maintaining a property requires more than just mowing the lawn every couple of weeks. Even homeowners committed to making their properties as pristine as possible can run into problems when adverse weather conditions pose a threat to lawns and gardens. The following are just a handful of reasons why homeowners may find working with landscaping professionals is the best thing for their properties and their bank accounts. • Professionals understand the local climate. Experienced professional landscapers will understand the local climate and the challenges it presents to your lawn. Experience can prove invaluable as lawns battle adverse conditions that threaten its survival. While homeowners going it alone may struggle through a trial and error period as they try to address problems threatening their lawns, experienced professionals are more likely to identify the problem immediately, providing a ready solution that can prevent potentially costly repairs down the road. • Professionals can provide inspiration. In addition to maintaining properties, many landscaping professionals have vast experience improving properties through landscape design. Professional landscapers may

Bailey Wood Products the Natural Choice



Get ready for Spring!

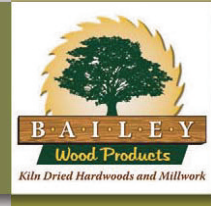
Bailey Wood Products manufactures and sells raised bed garden frames in custom and stock sizes at our location and on our online store. Made from nontoxic and pest resistant thermally modified wood, they are perfect for organic gardens. Complement your garden with our own Adirondack chairs or a new Thermo-Wood deck.



Call Today!



Bailey Wood Products
441 Mountain Road
Kempton, PA 19529
PH: 610-756-6827
www.baileywp.com/store



B. Young Asphalt Paving and Sealcoating
Free Estimates Kutztown
Book Now & Save 10%
484-486-0282
PA #111185 • Driveways • Parking Lots • Hot Crack Repair • Gravel

have a host of ideas for your property that you would never think of. Homeowners with little to no lawn and garden experience may not realize all the things they can do with their properties, and those who go it alone may end up with unappealing landscapes that do not attract buyers' attention when the home hits the market. Professionals typically have a wealth of ideas and, perhaps more importantly, they understand which ideas will and won't work on a given property. • Professionals can remove some of the stress of managing landscaping projects. Homeowners know that home improvement projects, whether they are addressing home interiors or exteriors, can be stress-

ful. Professional landscapers typically have a network of professionals, including contractors, who they have worked with in the past. Such connections can ensure more complex projects that require both landscapers and construction contractors go as smoothly as possible. In addition, homeowners who receive contractor recommendations from their experienced landscapers tend to rest easier knowing the people working on their properties have already developed a rapport and established a successful track record working together. Professional landscapers can be just what homeowners need to turn their properties into appealing oases no buyer can resist.



Green Acres
Ground Maintenance
2008 Old Route 22, Lenhartsville, PA
610-562-5259

GET READY FOR SPRING!
Mulch • Decorative Stone • Topsoil
Landscaping Materials
Hauling • Landscaping • Mowing

NOW OPEN IN OUR NEW BUILDING!

Lawn & Garden Projects?

You Can Rent The Equipment You Need To Complete Your Job.

- Thatchers
- Rototillers
- Chippers
- Stump Grinders
- Log Splitters
- Seeders

We Rent Heavier Equipment For Landscapers and Contractors Too! Check our website for a complete listing.

1180 Centre Turnpike, Orwigsburg, PA 17961
570-366-1071 or Toll Free 1-866-796-2792
www.arkrentals.com





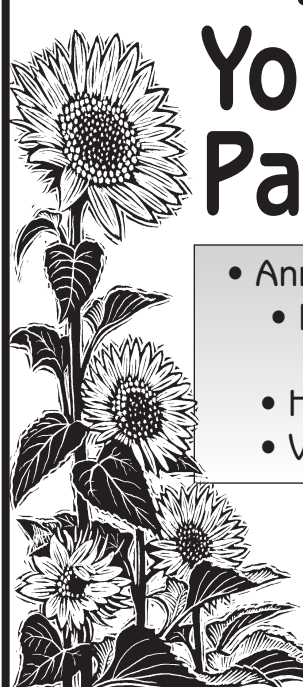
Geist's Nursery

"The Best Blooming Place To Bee!"

Plant Your Own Paradise!

- Annuals • Perennials
- Herbs • Shrubs
- Trees
- Hanging Baskets
- Vegetable Plants

1111 Hex Hwy.
3 Miles West of Hamburg, Old 22
610-562-0880
OPEN: Tues. thru Sat. 9 AM to 5 PM;
Sun. 10 AM to 4 PM: Closed Mon.



How To Approach Buying A Pool Or Spa

Many homeowners feel pools or spas are must-have features as they attempt to turn their

homes in their own personal oases. The decision to get a pool or a hot tub is not one to

take lightly. Significant purchases, pools and/or spas can affect the value of a home and also require various safety modifications. Taking a thoughtful approach when considering adding pools and/or spas to their homes can help homeowners rest easy knowing they made the right decision.

- Do your research first. When making any decision, it's best to be well-informed. Read reviews on products and find out the base prices of certain pool models so you'll have a system of comparison. Choose the type and size of pool you want. Other factors, such as the material used in the pool (i.e., concrete, metal, fiberglass, or vinyl) and filtration methods, also can affect the price, so consider each of these factors carefully before making your decision.

- Determine why you want a pool or spa. The type of pool or spa you ultimately choose should depend on how you plan

to use the pool. If you want a pool mainly for family entertainment, then you may want to add mood lighting or special landscaping features. If you simply want something in which you can cool off, a basic model may be most practical. If your spa is intended for therapeutic purposes, look for ones with multi-positional water jets or other specialized features. Don't fall into the trap that a large pool with a deep diving area is best. Young children and many adults do not frequently use the deep end, and you may end up with wasted pool space.

- Find a good time to buy. Fall and winter are some of the best times to get deals on pool and spa equipment because it's no longer prime swimming season. However, there are deals to be had come early spring as well. Retailers may deeply discount last year's models to make room for new inventory. You always can negotiate if the price is just a bit beyond your

reach. Retailers may be motivated to make sales in the off-season, so try to use that motivation to your advantage.

- Recognize there will be extra costs. Some retailers sell pools and spas but do not arrange for installation. Realize that an inground pool will require excavation, and your yard may need to be regraded to allow for rain run-off. Electricians and landscapers are some additional costs to factor in. Make sure you understand the bigger picture and account for the total cost of modifying the yard.

- Inquire about insurance. Speak with the pool installer about any liability and compensation insurance they may carry

to protect you in the event of an accident during the installation of the pool. Reputable builders should be fully insured.

- Learn about zoning laws and other ordinances. Rules regarding pool placement and size will vary depending on local laws. Always consult with the town's municipal office and get the proper permits. Otherwise, you may face fines and be forced to spend more to fix problems that need to be addressed.

Pools can be entertaining additions to a home. When considering the addition of a pool to their properties, homeowners should take their time and make sure it's the right decision for them.



MILLER'S Est. 1974

Lawnmower Service

Sales & Service

Come In To See The

TORO

All-Wheel Drive Walk Behind!

We Service All Makes and Models
Pick Up and Delivery

Simplicity ECHO

906 Centerport Road • Mohrsville, Pa. 19541 610-926-4265



Retaining Wall Systems and Pavers

Pick up at our yard or we will deliver any size load.
See our E.P. Henry and Kichler Lighting display.

Our 36th Year

AR. Adam & Son, INC.
Landscaping Supplies

4 Industrial Drive, Hamburg, PA 19526
610-562-8662
Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 am to 5 pm, Sat. 8 am to 3 pm
Visit us at www.aradamandsoninc.com

- QUALITY TOPSOIL (Specially Prepared Rich Mix)
- ASSORTMENT OF MULCHES
- DECORATIVE STONE
- DRIVEWAY STONE
- FRESH & SUPER AGED MUSHROOM SOIL
- FILL DIRT • STONE
- SAND • BAGGED OR BULK

CLIP and SAVE



Buildings For All Your Needs

Commercial, Residential and Agricultural

Designed and Custom Built by

MARTIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

Call Us For Your Next Building Project
We Can Help You With All Phases: Design, Site Work, and Building Construction.
"Designed & Built With Care For Over 35 Years."

www.martinconstructionco.com
Fleetwood, PA 610-683-6120






WOOD PELLET SALE

Now thru **MAY 31**
or while supplies last

Save Now!

STOVE & FIREPLACE SALE

INVENTORY REDUCTION SALE
on in-stock stoves, fireplaces and demo units

Now thru **APRIL 30**
or while supplies last

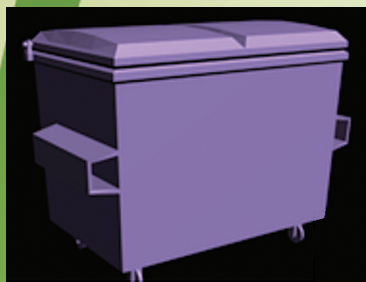
Kegerreis Stoves

7758 Rt. 183, Bernville, PA 19506
(610) 488-0890
www.kegerreisstoves.com
sales@kegerreisstoves.com
Mon.-Fri. 9-6 • Thurs. 9-8 • Sat. 9-1



Since 1970

Roll-Off Units



Up To 15 Yards For Your Home Improvement, Roofs and Large Clean-Out Projects

Your Cans Are In Good Hands!

Don't have much trash?? We have "Lawley's" Trash Bags in bundles of 10. Call for Details!

Lawley's

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

Disposal & Container Service, Inc.

610-916-5999

PO Box 778
Leesport, PA 19533
www.lawleysdisposal.com

No Hidden Charges In Our Billing!
Serving Reading and Immediate Surrounding Areas.



CALL NOW FOR SERVICE!

Smart Watering Conserves Water And Saves Money

Summer heat can be harmful in various ways. People and pets can quickly succumb to the summer sun, which can cause sunburn, heat exhaustion and heat stroke when people and their animals spend too much time outdoors without adequate protection. Landscapes are also vulnerable to summer heat, which can quickly spoil the most lush lawns and robust gardens. Effective watering can help lawns and gardens withstand summer heat, but improper watering can deprive landscapes of the water they need to survive. Home-owners concerned about their lawns and gardens surviving the summer

can take the following approach to conserve water, save money and maintain their landscapes. • Start early. Homeowners may feel that the hottest times of the day are when lawns and gardens will be most in need of water, so that's the best time to set sprinklers or grab the hose and get to work. But in many areas, watering between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., when summer temperatures tend to peak, can be both wasteful and ineffective. That's because watering between those hours will cause much of the water to quickly evaporate, robbing lawns and gardens of the water they need to withstand the heat. Homeowners

who water when water is most likely to evaporate may feel they need to water more, and that only wastes water. It's best to consult a local landscaping professional in your area to determine the best time to water each day, but in many regions the best time to water is between 6 a.m. and 10 a.m., when temperatures are generally lower, the sun is not at its peak and winds are not as strong. • Place sprinklers correctly. If you do not have an inground irrigation system and don't intend to install one, you will likely use lawn sprinklers to water the lawn. When placing these sprinklers, turn them on and then document their trajectory before moving on to the next area. You want to make sure the water from the sprinklers is not landing on sidewalks, patios or streets, especially if your community typically institutes drought restrictions that limit how much you can water. In such instances, you'll need to make the best use of the water you're allowed to use, so make sure none of it is watering the driveway. • Let well-fed lawns go dormant during drought. Lengthy droughts tend to be accompanied by water restrictions, and such restrictions can frustrate homeowners who don't want to see all of the hard work they've put in to this point go to waste. But grass that has thus far been well cared for can withstand drought and still recover when rains once again fall and temperatures cool come autumn. If you plan to let the lawn go dormant, keep kids, pets and visitors off the grass, as dormant lawns are highly susceptible to damage. Summer is an enjoyable time of year, but lawn and garden enthusiasts may be concerned for their properties when summer heat sets in. A few simple strategies can help lawns make it through the season



Page 8-L&G

BRADY'S

Small Engine Repair

Lawn, Garden and Contractor Equipment

- Equipment Service
- Welding Fabrication and Repairs
- Pick Up and Delivery Available



3390 Mountain Road, Hamburg, PA 19526
www.bradyssmallenginerepair.com
bradyssmallenginerepair@gmail.com

610-468-2429

Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 5:30 pm;
Saturday 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Authorized Dealer and Service Center:



Did You Know...

The majority of grass species have chlorophyll to thank for their appealing green color. Chlorophyll is a bright pigment that absorbs both blue and red light especially well. But chlorophyll largely reflects green light, which is why the yards and fields we spend so much time in are green. And chlorophyll does more than influence the color of grass. Chlorophyll also plays an important role in the process of photosynthesis, during which green plants use sunlight to synthesize foods from carbon dioxide and water. According to LiveScience.com, chlorophyll molecules absorb light and then transfer that energy to special molecules that, when stimulated, fire off electrons that produce chemical changes in the plant. That chemical energy is ultimately turned into sugar, highlighting the essential role that chlorophyll plays in lawns' survival.



Active Military, Veterans & First Responders Discounts



Stock & Custom Pole Buildings
www.jwlpolebuildings.com
Call for Free Estimates **1-800-861-6445**

Residential • Commercial • Agriculture • Horse Barns

#PA022680

metal sales

Call Now Pole Buildings Also Available with Concrete Floors, Shingle Roofing, Vinyl Siding, Insulation



HAWK VALLEY LANDSCAPE MATERIALS
Premium Soils and Mulches

- ★ Quantity Discounts
- ★ You Pick Up or We Deliver

152 Pine Creek Road, Kempton, PA 19529
610-756-6259

Propane Delivery & Service

Propane Delivered To Your Tank For As Low As

120 gals. or more at \$1.49⁹ /gal.	250 gals. or more at \$1.09⁹ /gal.	500 gals. or more at \$.99⁹ /gal.
--	--	---

Call Now To Place Your Order!

We Also Install Propane Tanks!

Purchase or Rent...It's Your Choice.



A Local Family-Owned Business

610-916-0237

www.elitefuelservice.com

READING, PA 19605

HIC# PA017944

SERVING BERKS COUNTY



POWERFUL, PREMIUM, PERFORMANCE!

SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE*




Broadmoor™ Lawn Tractor

- Briggs & Stratton Professional Series™ V-Twin Engine with ReadyStart®
- Exclusive Suspension Comfort System™ (SCS™) for a Smoother Ride*
- Free Floating™ Mower Deck for Ballpark Stripes
- Automatic Controlled Traction™ for Superior Traction
- Electric Height-of-Cut for Easy Adjustment
- LED Headlights

Courier™ Zero Turn Mower

- Briggs & Stratton Professional Series™ V-Twin Engine with ReadyStart®
- Front or Front & Rear Suspension for a Smooth Ride
- Integrated Rear Cargo Bed† for Added Versatility in Your Yard
- Easy-to-Use 13-Position Height-of-Cut Adjustment
- Durable Fabricated Mower Deck with Limited Lifetime Warranty†
- Ergonomic Mesh Seat Keeps You Cool and Comfortable

STOP IN TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SIMPLICITY® DEALER TO TEST DRIVE A SIMPLICITY TRACTOR OR ZERO TURN MOWER TODAY!



Koch's Lawn & Garden Inc.
Quality Equipment • Expert Service
Conveniently Located on Rte. 895, 1/2 Mile West of New Ringgold
570-943-2367 • www.kochslg.com

*Subject to credit approval. Minimum monthly payments required. See dealer for details. **Results of Suspension Comfort System™ depend on grass/yard conditions. †50 lb. capacity, do not overload, do not carry passengers. Standard on most models. See operator's manual or dealer for complete warranty details.

www.simplicitymfg.com

Lawn & Garden

GRASS SEED

GREEN TURF SUNNY
25 LBS.\$76.50
3 LBS.\$10.53

GREEN TURF SHADY
25 LBS.\$76.50
3 LBS.\$10.53

LANDSCAPERS
25 LBS.\$51.75
2-1/2 LBS.\$6.11

SUN & SHADE
25 LBS.\$75.00
3 LBS.\$10.35

NEW LAWN
25 LBS.\$58.88

STRAW (Barley)
APPROX.
38 LB./BALE. . .Market Price

GARDEN/LAWN

LIME, PELLETIZED
..... 40 lbs. \$5.05

LIMESTONE
..... (garden or lawn)
..... 50 lbs. \$3.60

5-10-5 FERTILIZER
..... (50 lbs.) \$10.42

10-10-10 FERTILIZER
..... (50 lbs.) \$12.08

DISCOUNTS ON QUANTITY PURCHASES!

F.M. BROWN'S SONS, INC.

FLEETWOOD, PA
PH: 610-944-7654
www.fmbrown.com
Monday thru Friday
7:30 AM to 5:00 PM;
Saturday
7:30 AM to 12:00 Noon

M Y E R S T O W N
Sheds & Fencing

If you'd like to create your own personal backyard living space, browse our website or stop by our showroom today. We have a large selection in stock every day, and would love to help you find what you need to make your backyard your own.




Sheds
A workshop for dad and a garden shed for mom, storage sheds are a versatile and flexible way to create additional spaces. Choose from maintenance-free vinyl siding or the classic look of painted wood.

Swing Sets
Our playsets are loaded with activities that will spark every child's imagination and encourage daily physical activity and never-ending fun! For backyards and families of all sizes.

Fences
Did your dog get out again? We have fencing for pets, keeping children safe, making some privacy, or keeping the critters out of your garden. Choose from vinyl or aluminum...and make a lasting investment to your property.

Furniture
For maintenance-free outdoor living, choose outdoor patio furniture made from poly lumber. This material will not rust or rot. Choose from several lines of patio chairs, tables and much more.

Sheds • Swingsets • Lawn Furniture
Bulk Mulch • Soil • Stones

We Deliver

Watch For Our New Location
1138 S. Rt. 183
Schuylkill Haven

Located at Martin's Farm Market
744 S. Rt. 183, Schuylkill Haven, PA
570-739-7288 • www.myerstownsheds.com
Mon. - Thurs. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Fri. 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.; Closed Sun.

How To Take Care Of Your Trees

Lawns and gardens tend to draw the bulk of homeowners' attention come spring and summer. But it's important that property owners tend to the trees that dot their property as well. The types of trees homeowners have on their property may influence when it's time to trim and prune the trees. Homeowners concerned about tree maintenance should speak with local landscaping professionals and tree services about caring for the trees on their specific properties, but there are a few tricks to pruning trees that homeowners should keep in mind when dusting off their gardening tools.

- Prune at the right time. The Arbor Day Foundation® notes that pruning during dormancy (i.e., winter) is the most com-

mon practice. Pruning in late winter, after the season's coldest temperatures have passed, can lead to impressive and healthy growth in the spring. The ADF advises that some trees, including maple and birches, may bleed sap during pruning. But this is normal and should cease as the tree starts to bloom. Novice landscapers should confirm with landscaping professionals about the best time to prune trees on their properties to ensure they are not inadvertently harming the trees or making them more vulnerable to fungus.

- Use appropriate tools. When removing branches, use sharp tools to minimize damage to the bark. The ADF notes that young trees are best pruned with one-

hand pruning shears with curved blades. For trees with high branches, use a pole pruner or hire a professional tree service. Novices should avoid anything too risky when pruning their trees, leaving the more difficult jobs to the professionals.

- Follow the rules of pruning. When pruning trees, the ADF advises homeowners follow the one-third and a quarter rules of pruning. In adherence to these rules, no more than a quarter of a tree's crown is removed in a single season, and main side

branches are at least one-third smaller than the diameter of the trunk. When trimming deciduous trees, homeowners should never prune up from the bottom more than one-third of the tree's total height. Finally, where possible, homeowners should aim for side branches that form angles that are one-third off vertical to form 10 o'clock or 2 o'clock angles with the trunk.

- Water correctly. Like lawns and gardens, trees need water to thrive. Insufficient watering can make it hard for trees to thrive in summer, but overwatering can be harmful, too. The ADF suggests that watering each tree for 30 seconds with a steady stream of water from a garden hose equipped with a diffuser nozzle should be sufficient. Newly planted trees may need more help as they try to establish deep root systems, so consider laying mulch around newly planted trees. Mulch helps the soil retain moisture and form deeper, stronger root systems.

Trees maintenance should be a priority as homeowners once again start tending to their lawns and gardens. More information about caring for trees is available at www.arboday.org.



Haulmark.com **TRAILER SALES**

The Best Name Behind You For The Long Haul

SURE-TRAC •Utility Trailers •Car Haulers



The One You Want Not In Stock? We Can Order It. Need A Hitch? We Have Them.
Installation Available
See Us For Your Best Deal!
NOW SELLING CARGO PRO and SNO-PRO ALUMINUM TRAILERS

GIVLER'S AUTO CLINIC & TRAILER SALES
www.givlertrailers.com
162 N. Centre Ave., P.O. Box 365, Leesport, PA 19533
Brad Givler, Proprietor - Shop: 610-926-8826 • Cell: 484-955-3487
Mon., Tues., Thurs. & Fri. 8:30 - 5:30; Wed. 8:30 - 8:00 **SAT. 9 AM - 3 PM TRAILER SALES ONLY**

BOB'S POOLS, Inc. • Pools • Spas • Supplies **CALL TODAY & SAVE!**

Fiberglass, Vinyl Liner & Concrete Pool Installations

Riviera Fiberglass Pools

- 5 Beautiful Colors Available
- Over 30 Styles
- Lifetime Transferable Warranty
- Saves Money, Saves Chemicals
- Saves Cleaning, More Fun!

See the complete line at
www.rivierafiberglasspools.com




We Fill Pools!
Water Delivery Available.
Call For Details!

FINANCING AVAILABLE

Gift Certificates Available

Rt. 443, Friedensburg 570-739-2288



**All Lawn Equipment
Any Make - Any Model**
• Lawn & Garden Tractors
• String Trimmers • Sharpening
Custom Auto Interiors
Powder Coating

FIX IT ALL

610-562-6868
802 S. Fourth Street, Hamburg

**IF WE CAN'T FIX IT,
YOU DON'T PAY!**

Used Equipment & Trade-Ins
Pick Up & Delivery
E-mail: fixitall222@gmail.com

285 Blue Mountain Road,
Schuylkill Haven, PA
17972

schuylkill paving inc.

• Residential & Commercial Paving
• Milling • Line Striping
• Seal Coating • Hauling

FREE ESTIMATES

PAOAGHC005897

570-754-7800

CORRELL Construction
CONCRETE & MASONRY

new, old, replace, or repair

floors, steps, curb, sidewalk, patios, walls,
concrete, stamped concrete, pavers, stone

610-562-4293 610-741-9422

Paul L. Correll
138 S. 4th St., Hamburg, PA 19526
*free estimates * fully insured*

Grim's Hauling

Located at Grim's Trailers, Bowers
610.682.0830 Leave Message
484.256.2428

Monday thru Friday 8 am to 5 pm
Saturday 8 am to 3 pm

Topsail 80/20 Mix
80% Topsoil & 20% Mushroom \$25⁰⁰ per yd.

Mushroom Soil \$12⁰⁰ per yd.

Red, Brown & Black Mulch (Dbl. Ground) \$30⁰⁰ per yd.

Brown Natural Mulch \$25⁰⁰ per yd.

Mason Sand \$35⁰⁰ per yd.

3/4" Yellow Sandstone \$50⁰⁰ per yd.

Red Stone (Red 1B) \$45⁰⁰ per yd.

Red Stone (Red 2B) \$40⁰⁰ per yd.

1-3" River Rock & 1" \$45⁰⁰ per yd.

2B Stone & 2A Stone \$20⁰⁰ per yd.

#3 & 1B \$25⁰⁰ per yd.

Screenings \$20⁰⁰ per yd.

Equipment & Demolition Hauling
CALL FOR SPECIAL PRICING ON TRI-AXLE LOADS!

LOOKING FOR SATURDAY MECHANIC!

Fence Etiquette Prevents Disputes

People fortunate enough to own their own plots of land often choose to fence in their pieces of paradise. Fences serve many purposes: to designate property boundaries, keep pets or children contained in a safe environment, corral livestock, offer privacy or add aesthetic appeal. Although installing a fence may seem like the right idea for you, going about it the wrong way may lead to problems among neighbors, particularly if you live where the houses are relatively close to one another. Some homeowners find fences become the final point of contention among disagreeable neighbors or create tension with a neighbor with whom you previously had a good relationship. Being courteous with fence plans is the way to avoid any animosity along the way. There are certain things you must do and should do if you plan to erect a fence. Most people find neighbors appreciate being informed of any decisions you are thinking of making to the

property that can affect their views or their adjoining property. Before drawing up fence plans with a contractor, talk to the neighbors on either side of your home and gauge their receptiveness to a fence. At this point, you may want to consider offering to make the fencing project a joint deal to save money should the neighbors decide to install a fence as well. Contractors will often discount if they have several customers doing an installation at the same time. Property owners can save by splitting the costs of the shared walls of the fence where their property lines meet. Explain your case for the fence. Most neighbors are receptive to the idea if they know the reasoning — especially if the desire for a fence is not to keep them at bay. It's hard to protest a fence that is a safety precaution for children. If your neighbor already has a fence, you must ask whether you can connect your fence panels into the support post on your shared side.

Once you notify your neighbors as a courtesy, there are certain steps to take that will prevent any legal disputes down the road. Even the most easy-going neighbor could grow aggravated if the fence is put up carelessly or ends up partially on his property. The best way to prevent this is to

apply for a new, professional property survey and have property lines indicated with paint or wood markers. Each town or city has different regulations with regard to fencing, so it is important to learn the ropes or hire a contractor who is familiar with the rules. It might be



illegal to install fences directly on the property line. The law might require the fence be installed a few inches inward. There also may be rules about how high fences can be in the front of the home, sides and back. Corner lot properties may have added regulations depending on whether the fence could prove a visual obstruction to drivers. If you live in a planned community, or one with a homeowners' association, it is your job to find out the guidelines for any home improvements. The HOA may dictate the style, size and maintenance of the fence or may not allow a fence at all. Once all the details are checked, you may have to apply for a fence permit. This way the construction of the fence and finished product will meet safety

standards, and the area in which you live can provide consistent quality control. If the fence is installed by code, there is little chance it will have to be torn down or changed in the near future. Also, doing it by the book means that a neighbor can be unhappy about a fence but not have legal recourse to ask you to remove it. As an added form of courtesy, it is proper fence etiquette to put the "good" side of the fence facing the neighbors' yards. That means the side of the fence that doesn't show the support panels and posts. Remember, it is your fence so you are also responsible for all maintenance of the fence, on all sides. Just because your neighbor also will be benefiting from your fence, doesn't mean he will have to care for it.

Embrace Greenscaping For A Healthy Lawn

Lawn and garden enthusiasts are often on the lookout for new trends that can make their lawns and gardens healthier and more robust. One trend that has gained considerable popularity in recent years is the move toward greenscaping, a set of landscaping practices that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says can improve the health and appearance of lawns and gardens while protecting and preserving the planet's natural resources. **WHY GREENSCAPE?** While the opportunity to protect and preserve natural resources is reason enough for many lawn and garden enthusiasts to embrace greenscaping, there are additional benefits to turning a landscape into a greenscape. Greenscaping promotes the planting of native plants, which are already accustomed to local climates and therefore do not require as much time and effort

to care for than non-native plants. Non-native plants may struggle to adapt to foreign climates, requiring homeowners to water them more frequently than native plants. And homeowners who plant non-native plants can expect to spend money to ensure they survive. So non-native plants can waste water and also cost homeowners time and money. **HOW CAN I GREENSCAPE?** Planting native plants is just one element of greenscaping. The following are a handful of additional ways men and women with green thumbs can turn their properties into healthy greenscapes. • Build and maintain healthy soil. The EPA notes that a single teaspoon of healthy soil contains roughly four billion organisms. These organisms help create a loose soil structure that promotes strong, healthy roots. In addition, healthy soil recycles

nutrients for plants while protecting them from certain pests and diseases. One way to create healthy soil is to conduct a soil test to determine if it has any nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium or lime deficiencies. Another way to build healthy soil is to add compost when mixing top soil for new garden beds or plants. Among its many benefits, compost can help soil retain nutrients and water. • Water effectively. Lawns and gardens need water to thrive, but overwatering can be just as harmful to lawns as drought. Make a list of the types of plants (including the types of grass) in your yard, and then do your homework to determine how much water each plant needs. The EPA notes that vegetables and other annuals should be watered at the first sign of wilting, while perennials typically only need water if they are still sagging when temperatures

cool in the evening. Trees and shrubs with fully established roots usually do not require any watering, though they might need some in years that are especially dry. Avoid watering in mid-day, when summertime temperatures are typically at their hottest and water is likely to evaporate. In addition, watering in the evening may encourage the growth of mold or disease, so water in the early morning. • Practice "grasscycling." When mowing the grass, leave clippings on the lawn (though not in large piles dumped from buckets attached to the mower). It's a misconception that grass clippings contribute to the buildup of thatch that blocks water from getting to the soil. In fact, when clippings are left on the lawn, the soil recycles the clippings into fertilizer. Leaving grass clippings in the yard after mowing can contribute to a healthier lawn.

Complete Sharpening Services
Welding ♦ Fabrication

STICHTER SHARPENING & CUSTOM MACHINING

stichtersharpending@gmail.com

835 Shartlesville Rd. Bus: 610-926-7839
Mohrsville, PA 19541 Cell: 484-955-8287

Visit us on Facebook

READY TO GRILL?

GRILL SALE

thru April 30, 2016

Kegerreis Stoves 7758 Rt. 183, Bernville, PA 19506 (610) 488-0890
www.kegerreisstoves.com
sales@kegerreisstoves.com

Big Green Egg

PA001654

6 Steps To Creating Fairy Gardens For Kids

Gardening can be an enjoyable activity for adults and children alike. Gardening encourages creative thinking and can make for an eco-friendly activity as well.

Adding a touch of whimsy to gardening can make it that much more attractive to children. Perhaps that is why fairy gardens have become so popular among youngsters. Fairy gardens can be designed in outdoor gardens or in containers that children can nurse and enjoy indoors. Here are six steps to get your fairy garden up and running.

1. Choose your container or location. Decide where to place the fairy garden. Hollowed-out tree stumps are both contained and outdoors, and kids may feel like the fairies inhabited this



neglected area of the yard and made it their own. Otherwise, use containers you already have, such as old pots, hanging baskets, picnic baskets or cookie tins. Wooden birdhouses with their roofs removed also can make for clever places to house the gardens. 2. Choose a theme. Fairy houses can take on any theme their creators prefer. Themes help children decide what to include in their gardens. For example, a seaside retreat may work well with little reclining chairs, sea grasses and succulents. You can then complete the theme by adding some seashells and colored stones. 3. Draw up your design. Before securing anything in the container or digging into your garden bed, sketch out a garden design. This gives you an idea of how the finished product will look. Even before planting, gen-

erally place plants and other components in their spots and move them around accordingly until you find the desired look.

4. Include similar-needs plants. Mixing plants that have different requirements can make it challenging to care for the fairy garden, so select plants that require similar levels of sunlight, prefer similar soil conditions and require roughly the same amount of watering. Herbs are a smart choice because they stay small and are easily maintained.

5. Don't forget a fairy dwelling. You will need to add a house for the fairies to inhabit. Small birdhouses can work, but you also can consider old teapots, bird-nesting boxes or even homemade houses assembled out of bark and twigs. Use your imagination and the garden will take on a life of its own.

6. Invite the fairies. Children can invite fairies to take up residence (fairies often show up at night and tend to remain unseen), or children can create their own fairies using craft materials. Fairy gardens are a fun way to introduce children to gardening. Once families get started, they may want to create entire fairy villages.

BIG SPRING TIME SALE!

NOW UNTIL MAY 7th!

SAVE UP TO 10% ON SELECTED STYLES FROM STOCK OR BUILT TO ORDER!

EASTERN
Building Products
14588 Kutztown Road
Fleetwood, PA 19522
610-683-6120

Hours:
Monday to Friday 7AM to 5PM
Saturday 9AM to 2 PM
CLOSED SUNDAY

Visit us on
Route 222 South of Kutztown,
on the web at ebpsheds.com
or call 610-683-6120

PA8177

Dick Wessner Inc.



610-562-8512

ASPHALT PAVING

- Driveways
- Long Lanes
- Parking Lots
- Developments
- Roadways

E-mail: dickwessinc1@verizon.net
PA006152



STOP IN TO SEE FINANCING AVAILABLE!

THE SMARTEST VALUE FOR YOUR DOLLAR.

WORKMASTER™ Series compact tractors combine top performance with top value. They're built tough, easy to operate, and easy to maintain. Whether you choose the 12X12 transmission with synchronized shuttle shift or the two-pedal, hydrostatic transmission, you can be sure you are getting the absolute best value for your dollar – now that's SMART.

- **Rugged, reliable, clean power:** 32 and 36-hp engines.
- **High-capacity hydraulics:** responsive loader control and 2,756-lb 3-point lift capacity.
- **Independent PTO:** electro-hydraulically.
- **Roomy, open platform:** a great view and comfortable operation.
- **Boomer™ Guard®:** best-in-class 5-year limited warranty*.



* Offer valid only on tractors purchased from an authorized New Holland dealer.





AG-INDUSTRIAL



1562 Ben Franklin Hwy., Douglassville, PA 19518
610.323.2500 | agindustrial.com





Your Full Service Dealership, with Quality Sales, Parts & Service

Come see what's blooming.

PHENOMENAL SELECTION FOR ALL YOUR FLOWERING & GARDENING NEEDS

BEST SELECTION IN BERKS

- Quality Plants • Grown On The Premises
- New & Unusual Varieties • Flowering Bags

FOR THE HOME GARDENERS

- 22 Varieties of Pepper Plants including Ghost
- 17 Varieties of Tomato Plants
- Hanging Tomato Baskets
- Beat Your Neighbor Tomato Plants
- 1000s of Herbs
- Perennials
- 1000s of Hanging Baskets



Temple Greenhouse

4821 8th Ave., Temple, PA 19560 • 610-921-0791
Hours: Open Sundays 10-3; Mon.-Sat. 9-5 Call for extended spring hours

Kolbe's

poools & more



WE LOVE TO POOL AROUND!

The Incredible Radiant Metric Series Pool

The Only Aboveground Pool That Gives You A True Lifetime Of Enjoyment Guaranteed!

- Installation Options
- Energy Efficient and Eco Friendly
- Made In The U.S.A.
- Lifetime Warranty






Join The Club!

Kolbe's Pools Loyalty Club Card. Earn Money Back With Your Purchase. Sign Up Today And Start Earning.



"TRY BEFORE YOU BUY!"

Want a robotic cleaner but not sure it's for you?

Kolbe's Pools can help with our "try me" program!
Both inground and aboveground models available to try. Stop in or call for details.





574 Rt. 61 South, Schuylkill Haven, South of Renninger's Market
Phone: 570-366-5066 Fax: 570-366-5060 www.kolbespools.biz
Hours: Monday thru Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. & Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

How To Make Spring Projects More Eco-Friendly

The arrival of warmer weather means different things to different people. Some anticipate opportunities for outdoor fun, while others may be considering redecorating or remodeling their homes.

Flowers and plants: Spring and summer call to mind beautiful blooming plants. Relying on native, sustainable plants is practical, environmentally friendly and cost-effective. According to the National Wildlife Federation, sustainable plants are native plants. Native plants sustain local wildlife more effectively than non-native alternatives, so include native plants in your sustainable garden. Native plants also are less reliant on pesticides and herbicides to keep them healthy and viable. Don't forget to bring plants indoors as well. Even though you may be opening the windows more, indoor plants can filter and purify indoor air. The NASA Clean Air Study, led in association with the Associated Landscape Contractors of America, found that certain common indoor plants naturally remove toxic agents such as benzene, formaldehyde and trichloroethylene from the air. Efficient air cleaning is accomplished with at least one plant per 100 square feet of home or office space.

Before discarding something, see if it can be donated or sold. This will result in fewer items ending up in landfills. Exercise caution outdoors as well. Runoff from cleaning products used on home siding or driveways can leach into the surrounding soil or find its way into sewage drains that ultimately direct fluids to public waterways. Choose environmentally responsible products whenever possible. Springtime renovation and cleaning projects provide the perfect opportunity to adopt eco-friendly practices that pay dividends for years to come.



www.windsorpress.com

Page 11-L&G

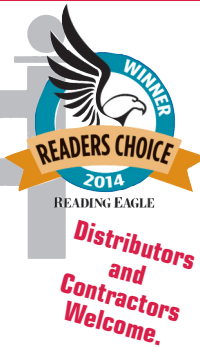
FREE ESTIMATES

BEAT THE SPRING RUSH!!

Professional Installation Available. Over 20 Years Experience.

J/M FENCE & DECK CO.

2209 Shartlesville Road, Mohrsville, PA 19541
610.488.7382
www.jmfencecompany.com



Berks County's #1 Fence Source

20 Vinyl Styles To Choose From



Vinyl Fence

12 Aluminum Styles To Choose From



Aluminum Fence

Lifetime Warranty on Materials (Vinyl and Aluminum)



Materials By:

BLUE MOUNTAIN VINYL

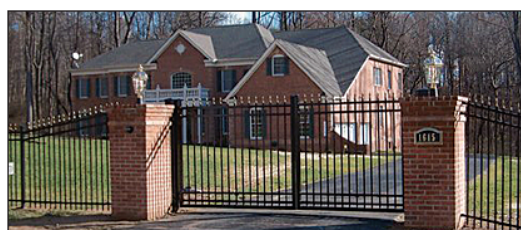
Division of J/M Fence and Deck

All Vinyl and Aluminum Fence Fabricated On-Site

Eliminate The Middle Man



Chain Link Fence



Automated Gate Entrances



Split Rail

COUPON

5% OFF Residentially Installed Fence

Not valid on existing contracts. Coupon must be presented at date of estimate. Valid for residential contracts only. GOOD AT J/M FENCE & DECK CO. Expires May 31, 2016

WP

COUPON

10% OFF Residential Fence Material Only - Labor Not Included

Available Products: - PVC Fence - Chain Link - Aluminum Fence - Split Rail. Coupon must be presented at date of estimate. Valid for residential contracts only. GOOD AT J/M FENCE & DECK CO. Expires May 31, 2016

WP

STORAGE SHEDS MOVED
Serving PA & NJ for over 29 years!!!

Reasonable Rates FREE ESTIMATES

Call: Glen 610-926-5671
FAX: 610-916-2954
Fleetwood, Pa.

Don't leave that shed behind! Move it with you! Do you have an unwanted shed, gazebo, or playhouse?

WEAVERS HAULING
Over 29 Years Experience!

Make The Most Of Mulching

Lawns and gardens can often benefit from the laying of mulch. Mulch serves various purposes in lawns and gardens, and many experienced lawn and garden enthusiasts lay mulch to ensure their properties make it through spring, summer and fall unscathed. First-time homeowners with little or no landscaping experience may not understand the benefits of mulch, which can be used to strengthen soil and protect properties from the elements. WHAT IS MULCH? Mulch refers to a material spread around or over a plant to enrich and/or insulate its soil. Many homeowners prefer mulch made of wood chips, which is both effective and readily available. The U.S. Environmental Protection

summer, need light to grow. When laid correctly, mulch deprives weeds of the light they need to grow. Organic mulches can even provide homes for crickets and a type of beetle that feed on weed seeds. Mulch also can deter harmful pests depending on the type of mulch homeowners choose. When purchasing mulch, homeowners will have to choose between the aforementioned organic mulch or man-made mulches, which may be made of plastic or rubber. While man-made mulches may repel pests, they also can have adverse effects. Plastic, for example, can heat up in the summer and cause plants to burn. Certain organic mulches can repel insects that can threaten plants. That's because the majority of organic mulches increase the



Agency notes that organic mulches, which include leaves, wood chips, compost or grass clippings, can be used by homeowners who want to develop eco-friendly landscapes. WHY MULCH? Mulching can benefit plants around a property in various ways. Many people lay mulch because the mulch helps soil retain moisture in the summer, when temperatures tend to be at their hottest. This can help plants survive summer heat waves. Mulch also can be used to suppress weeds. Weeds, which steal moisture plants need to build strong roots and survive

amount of beneficial bacteria in the soil, and they also increase the presence of helpful insects that do not pose a threat to plant life. Those helpful insects help keep harmful insects at bay. Compost is a type of organic mulch that may attract harmful insects. While that does not mean homeowners should shy away from using compost as mulch, they should know that they may need to employ organic insecticides to combat their unwanted guests. Mulch is a potentially valuable tool homeowners can use to improve the look and health of their properties.

FENCING • RAILINGS • DECKS



- Sheds • Gazebos • Playsets
- Poly & Wood Lawn Furniture
- Roofing & Siding - 27 yrs. Exp.
- Chicken Coops
- Shed Removal



COUPON
\$50 Off
Any Shed Up To \$1500

Good only at Wyomissing Structures. Expires 6-30-16

WP

COUPON
\$100 Off
Any Shed Over \$1500

Good only at Wyomissing Structures. Expires 6-30-16

WP

WYOMISSING STRUCTURES

1 Montrose Blvd., Shillington
610-374-2370 www.wyomissingstructures.com

GLAMOUR

ENTERPRISES

SPECIALIZING IN FIBERGLASS POOLS



Specializing in
Fiberglass One-Piece Pools
Fiberglass Vinyl-Liner Pools

Complete Service:
Chemicals, Filters, Pumps,
Liner Replacements.

610-682-7972

Family Owned • 32 Years Experience • info@glamourpools.biz

e-Subscribe to the East Penn Valley or Northern Berks Merchandiser at: www.windsorpress.com