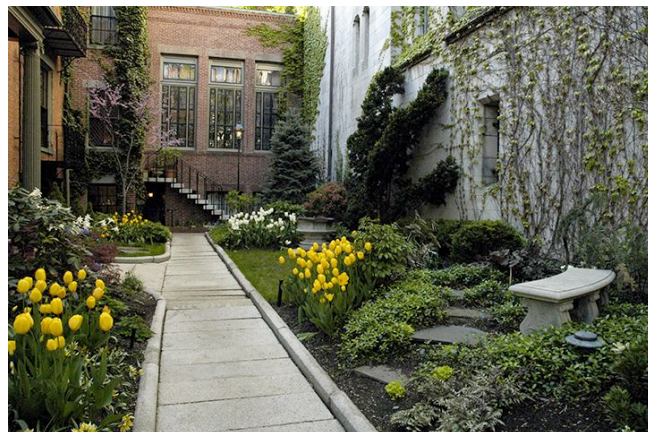


What's Coming Up:

Janet Macunovich answers your growing concerns
Issue 23, January 10, 2009

Here you'll find:

Ten tips for two-climate gardeners, pages 1-6
A great tour: A mouse does the walking, page 3
Touch tests for soil, page 5
Forced no more, daffs can live free outside, page 6
Smile about removing and replacing a tree, page 7
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Janet gardens cross-country (here: Beacon Hill, Boston) and loves it. In this issue she helps you do the same.

Photo ©2009 Steven Nikkila

Learning to garden at home sweet home number two

Janet, how does one **garden in Florida** when all my life I've been **gardening here in Michigan**? I'm in Florida now half the year.
- V.C. -

Here's some information, V.C., that applies not only to Florida-Michigan migrants but **anyone who splits the year** between gardens **in different regions**. It's what I've gathered in discussing, seeing and digging into the practicalities of two-climate gardening.

Some of those I've talked to or worked with split their time as you do, **between** a cool-summer **zone 4 or 5 and no-freeze zone 8-9** (Florida, coastal South Carolina, the Gulf Coast, southern California, etc.). Others maintain **primary and vacation homes** separated by just hours and a few degrees. I've also heard from more unusual transients, such as one who enjoys growing in Alaska during its 20-hour summer days but from October to May grows in a garden and a conservatory on Michigan's Lake Superior's coast.

I've tackled cross-regional gardening, too. I live in and know best the Great Lakes region

Two-climate gardener: A person who creates and maintains gardens in two places with significant differences in growing season and growing conditions.

Alternate climate: The second of two sets of growing conditions learned by a two-climate gardener.



In California's dry, zone 8 San Bernardino foothills I've been able to learn by doing when it comes to pruning *Duranta*, diagnosing problems of true *Plumbago* and looking out for tarantulas. It's quite the change from my zone 5 Michigan gardens. Make the leap with me in the 10 steps in this issue.

but garden for and advise gardeners in Manhattan and Massachusetts, California and Chicago, Ontario and Oregon. There are both **startling differences and deceptive nuance**.

Here is **my recommendation** to you and others, as **ten action items** listed in the sequence I use as I begin work a new area.

1 Check the weather and hardiness zone.

Sites such as www.wunderground.com (go to the bottom of the page to select "Find weather by U.S. Zip Code") are loaded with great detail, but do beware of bogging down in more than you need. I often use the basic city-by-city **temperature and rainfall** charts in an atlas, instead, because all I need is that simple comparison of heat, cold and moisture between two regions.

2 Locate some public gardens in your alternate climate.

At a library, check out tour guides, general or specialized -- *Let's Go Puerto Rico* or *Gardens of Philadelphia & the Delaware Valley*. On the Internet, use a search engine like www.google.com. You'll find lists of gardens posted by tourist boards, press releases about specific gardens, individual gardens' home pages as well as sites like www.gardenguides.com and www.publicgardens.org

3 Find at least two garden centers in your alternate climate.

- **Ask new neighbors.**
- Use the **phone directory** or,
- Use **on-line directories** such as www.gardenguides.com (From that home page: Resources → Garden & Plant Nursery Directory → choose a State → choose a locality).
- Look for retailers that specialize in plants and garden materials, as opposed to department stores or "big box" stores.



My friends and family, and sometimes my clients, say "Oh, you don't need to do that work, your advice is enough." But hands-on among palm roots and fire ants is a very sure way to learn, so it's what I do! Photos ©2009 Steven Nikkila



Friends, books and the Internet point out -- and often accompany me to -- local botanical gardens. Here, at Clemson University's South Carolina Botanical Garden getting ideas for friend Linda Thomas' garden. <http://www.clemson.edu/public/scbg/>

Searching the Internet for gardens

- **Use the words public gardens** followed by a region name, such as *public gardens Michigan* or *public gardens British Columbia*.
- If you begin searching from a gardening site's home page be aware that the phrase to look for may be "**garden walks**" rather than "public gardens."
- It can be helpful to **elect an advanced search** if one is offered. On www.publicgardens.org you can enter a State or region name, and/or check off the type of gardens you seek (Alpine Garden, Children's ~, Succulent ~, etc.) to view a specialized list.

4 Visit garden centers on your list.

- **Look for clearly tagged, well-organized** plants because that's going to make possible a critical, ongoing task: Identifying mysterious new plants.
- **Ask** at the service desk or check-out, "Who can tell me **where to see some great gardens** around here?" Don't fault the garden center if the person you ask must check around for an answer. Do award bonus points as you rank that garden center if the answers you get go beyond what you found in step 2.
- Become a supportive customer of the best garden center(s) you find. Please don't stop in with questions to take advantage of their expertise but then go buy elsewhere. (Amazing but true: Some people don't realize that maintaining expertise takes time, is the reason why that business may charge a bit more per plant, and that expert help is worth that premium!) In tough economic times some smaller garden centers close. We can make sure the best survive.

5 Visit public gardens on your list.

- **Look at plants.** Take notes so you can look into what's new to you.
- Even better: **Observe and talk to the gardeners.** Go on weekdays, or early in the day when you're most likely to see them at work. Be ready to find out that in your alternate climate **plants you've grown** "back home" **may require wholly different care.** You may see spring bulbs blooming, for instance, and figure they're reliable perennials because that's what they are where you come from. Yet if they're growing in a place without a true winter they may well be planted new each year and discarded after bloom where winters are warm. As another example, a surprising number of plants that are both sought-after and finicky in one area are unwanted, aggressive thugs in a different setting. You may not know this is the case unless you see a gardener muttering curses and grubbing out a plant you admired!



Even in aerial views Specialty Grower's great lay-out shows.



A garden center with well organized sales areas and helpful, clear labels deserves your support. (Plant Delights Nursery) Photos ©2009 Steven Nikkila

Save time and gas!

Look up gardens and garden center addresses in GoogleEarth (<http://earth.google.com/>). See the place in aerial shots -- and perhaps street level views -- to see which are big nurseries stocked with everything from huge trees to annuals in flats, which are most neatly organized, which are busy, and which have landscape supplies as well as plants.

Advantage, digital photo-gardener

If you use a digital camera you're ahead of the game, for two reasons.

- **One**, you can **snap a plant label** or take a separate close up of the leaf and twig as well as the overall plant. No film's wasted!
- **Two**, you can **email pictures** to someone like me or post them on gardening forums as a way to learn the names of mystery plants and solicit tips for growing those plants.

- If the garden hosts **educational events** or plant sales, pick up a newsletter and attend.
- **Ask about volunteer gardening programs** at that garden. For instance, many zoos have great gardens and active volunteer programs (I know this because I visit many zoos. But I searched *volunteer at zoo as gardener* on the Internet and immediately got links to zoos in seven States and one Canadian province.) Volunteering is a good way to meet other gardeners and develop a feel for local ways.

6 Locate local experts at the Extension office, regional gardening publications and blogs.

- Find **your Extension office** on <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/Extension/> Click on your State then your county.
- Ask at garden centers and the local library for **magazines** such as *The Michigan Gardener*, *The Carolina Gardener*, *The Gateway Gardener* (St. Louis), *Kansas City Gardener*, *Chicagoland Gardening*, *Texas Gardener*, etc.
- Surf for **local garden blogs**. Your alternate climate attracted *you*, so I bet there will be **other two-climate transients or transplants** and some of them are probably blogging. My own surfing netted a site which lists some regional blogs: <http://www.sustainable-gardening.com/BlogsandSites/Blogroll.php>

Extension? Extending what?

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) assists **land-grant universities** in **extending** their research and **support to** communities, including helping **homeowners** plan and maintain their landscapes and gardens. USDA administered funds plus State and local money pay for Extension offices, agents and a vast library of publications and website pages. www.csrees.usda.gov/Extension/index.html will find an Extension office near you.

Extrapolate from local writers

Don't look for statements such as "This is what's different about gardening here compared to region X." Why? Because those authors are *local experts* who may not be versed in gardening elsewhere! It's up to you to **read with an eye for what is new to you**. Identify such items, **then verify that detail** at a garden center and/or Extension: "I never used lime on my soil back home. This writer recommends it. Is it pretty common here?"



There are similarities between gardening on Lake Michigan's sandy dunes and here on the Atlantic Coast, but I've found that making too much of such similarities can mask more important differences Photos ©2008 Steven Nikkila

7 Test your soil.

- **Dig in to** become familiar with **the texture** of the soil at and below the surface.
- Also, **test how well it drains**. (Look back at *What's Coming Up* #15 for more about drainage tests.)
- **Check** at your alternate-climate Extension to see **if soil nutrient testing is available** through the State university or other labs. Submit a sample to learn what fertilizer is best for your garden.



Dig down to do a drainage test and to see what's up a foot down. Above, a subsoil that's darker than the surface layer, indicating ample organic matter. Unfortunately, it's also compacted -- it needs double-digging to break it up.

Photos ©2009 Steven Nikkila

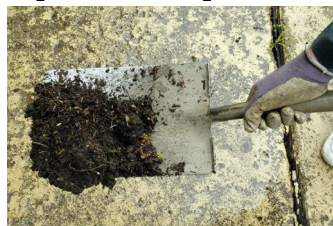


The Cape Cod garden on page 4 has a different problem -- pale subsoil leached of nutrient. Large quantities of organic matter and great care in fertilizing and watering are essential.

Develop a feel for soil

Rub a pinch of your soil with your fingers.

- If it **feels gritty**, it contains a significant amount of **sand**. Pale sandy soils sometimes lack nutrients. Many sandy soils dry out too quickly. **Mix in compost** to improve both conditions.
- If it can be rolled between the fingers to **form a rope**, it has enough **clay** to earn the name. Heavy clays become better when you **mix in compost** (or loosen that ground, add organic matter and let worms break it down and mix it in!) This adds humus -- a by-product of organic matter's decay -- which helps tiny clay particles bind in airy jumbles.
- Silt is soil without obvious grit, that isn't plastic enough to mold but **feels silky**. **Silt** is rich but tends to pack down and can develop a crusty cap that repels water. If you work in silt, don't walk in the beds and do **keep silt soil covered with organic mulch** that can prevent capping.
- Soil that **stains the fingers** has humus in it -- enriching organic matter. **Be glad** if an alternate climate soil darkens your hands, as each 1% of organic matter in soil is equal to adding 20 pounds of a fertilizer that begins with "5." **If a soil is pale, add compost** or organic fertilizers such as manure.
- **Loam** soil exhibits a little of all these characteristics. It's the stuff that pioneer farmers fought to claim.
- **Rocky soil** is hard to dig but isn't a problem to most plants and can be a boon to some.
- **Hard packed does not mean "clay."** It says "break me up!" Any type of soil -- sand, clay, silt or loam -- can be pressed hard by construction equipment so that they become brick-like. Once compacted, the problem is reduced air flow around roots, and slow drainage. So stop moaning about clay, break up that hard packed soil and learn what



you're actually dealing with.

Dark, crumbly organic matter -- such as compost or manure -- is the best thing that we can add to many soils.

8 Tour your new neighborhood.

- Focus on **both humdrum and stand-out** plants. Your new landscape will be great if it has solid chorus line players in groups as well as a limited number of stars.
- **Say howdy to gardening neighbors and ask** specific questions: **When** is it safe to plant tomatoes? **Can I** grow begonias here in summer? **Are there** any really bad weeds I should know about? **What would you say** is the most important tool I should have to garden here?
- **Take photos or** ask and **snip samples** of plants **to refer to the experts**. If you need to send a sample away to an expert, press it between two sheets of dry, plain paper. Don't package it in plastic, which may feel like the right thing to do but usually means your expert will receive only an unidentifiable, rotted sample.

9 Plant some plants you already know, if you learn that they can adapt and thrive (not just survive). **Plant some species that are new** to you. Try to avoid planting all new.

10 Plant to celebrate the differences between your gardens.

Distinctions help us recall where we are and **to avoid falling back into region-inappropriate habit**. So, revel in rhododendrons' vibrant health in moist, acid coastal areas but don't condemn them to life in the Midwest's stifling summer heat and dry winters. Enjoy the lush tallgrass prairie in Iowa but leave it behind when you enter the high desert. In shortgrass prairie western States, embrace gray-green, ground-hugging and succulent species. Dig your toes into Ohio's cool bluegrass but keep those sneakers on when you set out over the sharp blades of southern zoysia.

Charting a "What Grows Here" tour.

When you cast your gardener's eye across a new territory, look for what's being planted now and also what's stood the test of time. Use a map that includes side streets or tap a local expert to identify and **visit**:

- One or two **neighborhoods that are newly developed** (these are often clear on a map as outlying subdivisions with undeveloped space around them),
- A couple of **areas at least 20 years old** and,
- One that's **over 30 years old**. (Older neighborhoods are often laid out in rectangular grids rather than curves.)

By touring all of these **you'll see plants in vogue plus plantings that have lasted decades**.

No force, only time required when Christmas daffs move out into garden

I **forced narcissus bulbs** this Christmas - now what? **Will they bloom again outside?** - Sue -

They can bloom again, Sue, if they're hardy (paperwhites need zone 8 or warmer). It's very unlikely that will happen in 2009, however. More likely they'll be back in step **in spring 2010**.

Keep the plants in good light and let the foliage hang in there for at least a few weeks of good light -- longer if their light is limited to natural light of short daylength. Then cut the foliage back and let the pot sit out of the way until the ground's workable. Plant them outdoors as early as you can. Set them deeper into the soil than they were in the pot.

Tough to lose a tree, so it's good to be able to do it in stages

I faced an issue that needed your input, Janet, and wrote to you about a **five-trunk birch planted way too close to my house**, with one of its trunks damaging my roof and gutters. I thought I'd have no choice about removing the offending trunk, but **wondered about removing the entire tree**. The downside seemed to me to be the number of years it would take to replace this tree, which provides shade from the western sun.

You wrote to me, "I've looked at your photos and feel your pain. I'd take the one trunk out right now but leave the rest of the tree while getting a replacement tree started out further on the lawn. It could be another river birch, in fact, it would be best if it was the same species if there will be an overlap -- the first still there while the other gets started."

I was very excited **about the idea of starting a replacement tree without removing the original** tree right away! I would never have thought of that approach that will allow me to keep the *Astilbe*, *Heuchera*, *Hakonechloa*, and *Hosta* in that area of the yard currently shaded by the birch. So **I contacted a tree company which did an outstanding job**. Now (to my surprise) without the offending trunk, I may be able to postpone removal of the entire tree longer than I expected. I am **attaching photos to show you the results**. Thanks!

- C.G. -

I'm very glad it's worked out for you, C.G. Thanks very much for the photos. There's nothing better than that to give hope to other people in your situation.



Before (right) one trunk pressed and rubbed on the gutter and roof. Gone (above) it made less difference in appearance than the owner expected. Photos ©2008 Carol Gibbs



More mail order nurseries

Hi Janet and Happy New Year!

I would like to name two more good mail order nurseries:

- **Bluestone Perennials**, 7211 Middle Ridge Road, Madison, OH 44057; 800-852-5243
www.bluestoneperennials.com, and
- **Girard Nurseries**, 6939 North Ridge East, Geneva, OH 44041; 440-466-2881
www.girardnurseries.com

Both are **family owned and run**, and my experience with them has been very positive. They are in Ohio, but not so far away that one couldn't drive there in one (albeit long) day.

Best to you and your family in 2009. - JJ -

Thanks, JJ! **I've had a good experience with both those firms, too.** I respect Girard Nursery's growers greatly and have sought their advice for my articles in the past. Those who have my *Asking About Asters* special CD collection (more about it on page 9), check page 39 of *Evergreen Entries* ("Winter's worst identifies hardiest Japanese maples") to learn about the incident that first caused me to **recommend Girard's 'Robinson's Red' Japanese maple.**

This week in Janet's garden **Grow with me! This week I will:**

Be cleaning the garage, where one of my jobs will be deciphering faded and torn fertilizer labels so I can plan to use up that old fertilizer. I weigh it, figure how many square feet each remnant can cover, match it to a particular bed and then write that bed I.D. on the package right now: "Use in spring for *Stewartia* bed at mom's," "For Betty's arbs and hydrangea area, etc.

(Yup, M.P., fertilizer's good so long as it hasn't been in a puddle. If it's absorbed moisture only from the air, and caked up, it's still usable so long as you can break up the clods.)

Smile because I'm not in zone 8 where, after only recently doing the "fall" cutting back (in December!) gardeners are already faced with the task of getting bare ground mulched, quick before weed seeds can get started. Oh, I do love the winter for time off!

Wrap-up with Grins and Grow-ans that turn our green thumbs up or down

Grins: To my friends who bought my books on CD even though they'd rather have paper copies and *thought these were audio books*. That you would support my writing so far, you bring tears to my eyes. I hope you are finding the books useful -- no audio, just six page-by-page books with illustrations, tables of contents and indexes! I'll get back to you in just a couple of weeks about ordering those paper copies you said you still want.

Grow-ans: To having more indoor plants than grow lights. It's a back breaker to rotate these big plants into the light, each for its two weeks recuperation after two weeks deprived!

Own six of Janet's books on one CD!



Buy the *Asking About Asters* special edition CD.

It's a whole library of gems from a 20-year, 12,000-gardener discussion:

- 1,346 questions with in-depth answers
- 355 answers never seen before in newspaper or website
- 240 illustrations
- 1,200+ pages
- One comprehensive index to all six books

All six books on the CD can be comfortably read a page at a time, referenced from their table of contents and index or the full-set index. They are also fully searchable.

Just \$24.00 (Michigan residents include sales tax, total \$25.44).

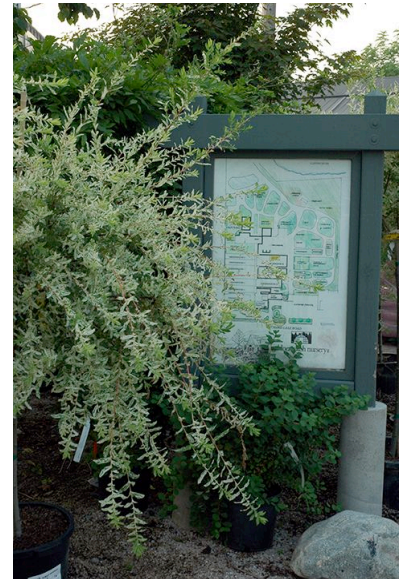
You can buy the CD from me by sending me your full mailing address and a check payable to Janet Macunovich to 120 Lorberta, Waterford, MI 48328.

New! The CD is now available at the Goldner Walsh Flower Shop, 559 Orchard Lake Road, 1-1/2 miles east of Telegraph Road in Pontiac. Goldner Walsh (below) has a great, well-labeled garden center, too!

Photo ©2009 Steven Nikkila

Who's Janet?

A gardener who got carried away. Janet Macunovich has been known to two generations of neighborhood children as "the lady at the flower house, the one with no lawn." Her lifelong interest in plants grew to a passion after she spent the summer of 1973 working in England, where she had the privilege of apprenticing to tenth-generation gardeners in a 300 year old garden. By 1981 the last of the lawn disappeared from her yard just as her hobby -- helping others in their gardens -- grew beyond its bounds into a gardening business. Eventually her talent as a writer and speaker crossed with her experience in the garden and grew on as books (*Designing Your Gardens and Landscape*, *Caring for Perennials*, *Asking About Asters*), a weekly newspaper column now available by email at JMaxGarden@aol.com, a radio talk show and a gardening school. Email questions to her at JMaxGarden@aol.com.



Where to catch Janet in-person:

Saturday, January 24, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "Favorite Plant Picks for Your Garden" Skip the trial and error method of choosing plants. Take a look at which cultivars and landscape plants I've seen perform best in southeast Michigan, then put together a list of successful plants for your garden. This class is sponsored by The Detroit Garden Center as part of its 18th annual winter seminar series. It's held at Historic Trinity Church auditorium, 1345 Gratiot near Eastern Market in Detroit. \$25. For more information and to register contact The Detroit Garden Center at 313-259-6363, detroitgardenctr@yahoo.com or www.detroitgardencenter.org.



Staying healthy as we garden: All about working smarter, not harder! Photo ©2008 Steven Nikkila

Saturday, January 31, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "Saving Time and Staying Healthy in the Garden". How to get more done in less time, along with practical strategies for preventing hand and back injuries with proper

methods and ergonomic tools. Part 2 of the 3-part Detroit Garden Center winter seminar series. See January 24 listing of "Favorite Plant Picks" to learn more about registration.

Special notice! Janet's good friends, instructors you know:

Saturday, February 7, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. "The Refined Native Plant Garden." If you aren't accustomed to seeing the word "refined" associated with native plants, you need to learn about the new cultivars of our native wildflowers. Names like blackeye Susan "Toto" (think small and cute), goldenrod "Goldenmosa" and a shorter Joe Pye plant are some colorful examples that could fit into a sophisticated garden and attract birds, butterflies, and other beneficial creatures. Instructors Karen Bovio (Specialty Growers) and Celia Ryker (Hadley Hill Farm and Garden) step in to wrap up the Detroit Garden Center's 3-part winter seminar series with a presentation created in cooperation with Janet Macunovich. See January 24 listing of "Favorite Plant Picks" to learn more about registration.

Karen Bovio, right, owner of Specialty Growers Nursery in Brighton, Michigan, has three decades of plant growing and plant selection experience. Those who receive Specialty Growers' email notices know and love Karen's in-depth, friendly plant descriptions.



Celia Ryker, left in her Ortonville, Michigan farm garden, has helped gardeners in Michigan and Vermont find native plants to reclaim natural areas and attract wildlife. On February 7 these helpful experts tell you how to incorporate native plants and their benefits in conventional gardens, too.

Photos ©2008 Steven Nikkila

Saturday, February 7. "Continuous Color in the Landscape" by Janet Macunovich and **"Effective Photogardening"** by Steven Nikkila. Part of the Winter Gardening Fair presented by Iowa State University Linn County Master Gardeners at Kirkwood Community College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. This all-day event offers 26 class choices and lunch for just \$49 (thanks to hundreds of hours of volunteer support by Master Gardeners, just one more example of all that Master Gardener volunteers give back to the gardening community). Go to www.extension.iastate.edu/linn or call 800-332-2055 to learn more or to register.

"Garden Fitness: Make your garden or landscape fit you!"

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at Goldner Walsh Nursery, Pontiac, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at Telly's Greenhouse, Troy, MI, 6 - 9 p.m.

Janet Macunovich shows you simple steps to design a garden or landscape that fits you, your budget and your site. You'll learn how to: Plan or renovate a garden or landscape to suit yours or others' needs; Anticipate and modify the costs to fit your budget, and; Insure the plan will work on your specific site.

This simple approach works for first time gardeners as well as professionals, do-it-yourselfers as well as those working from another's plan, and annual flower beds as well as perennial beds and whole landscapes.

To attend, see directions in list of locations at the end of this section

Questions? Call or email Janet: 248-681-7850 or JMaxGarden@aol.com

"Planting to Perfection: How to choose and plant to get things growing"

Thursday, January 15, at Tollgate Education Center, Novi, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Tuesday, January 20 at Goldner Walsh Nursery, Pontiac, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28 at Telly's Greenhouse in Troy, MI, 6 - 9 p.m.

Janet Macunovich gives you a basic plan for getting off and running by spring: How to select plants that will meet your expectations; Ideas for placing plants and features in your yard, and; Planting directions

Includes suggestions for easy, pleasing permanent plants (trees, shrubs, vines), long-term residents (groundcovers and perennials) and annuals.

To attend, see directions in list of locations at the end of this section

Questions? Call or email Janet: 248-681-7850 or JMaxGarden@aol.com

"Shade Gardening, a Practical Approach"

Thursday, January 22, at Tollgate Education Center, Novi, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Tuesday, January 27, at Goldner Walsh Nursery, Pontiac, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Wednesday, February 4, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or 6 - 9 p.m

Plant selection is critical for success in the shade, but so too are design and maintenance strategies, planting among tree roots, and soil preparation techniques that serve not only the new plantings but established trees or shrubs on the site. Janet Macunovich shares 25 years' experience to shed light on dark situations.

To attend, see directions in list of locations at the end of this section

Questions? Call or email Janet: 248-681-7850 or JMaxGarden@aol.com

"Pruning Trees and Shrubs"

Tuesday, February 3, at Goldner Walsh Nursery, Pontiac, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Thursday, February 12, at Tollgate Education Center, Novi, MI, 2 -5 p.m. or 6 -9 p.m.

Wednesday, March 18, 6-9 p.m. at Telly's Greenhouse, Troy, MI, 6 - 9 p.m.

If you have ever wondered how and when to prune your trees and shrubs to ensure beautiful bloom, good shape, manageable size, and healthy plants, this is the class for you. In it, garden designer and writer Janet Macunovich covers: How well and how long popular landscape plants hold up to pruning; Simple, proven techniques for keeping plants within the bounds you set. Macunovich encourages you to "Bring a branch!" Clip a limb from the plants you want to trim, to be sure they are included in the "how to!"

To attend, see directions in list of locations at the end of this section

Questions? Call or email Janet: 248-681-7850 or JMaxGarden@aol.com

Locations for Garden Fitness, Planting, Shade Gardening and Pruning:

At Goldner Walsh Nursery: 559 Orchard Lake Rd., 1-1/2 miles east of Telegraph Road in Pontiac. \$20 per session. Cash or check payable to Janet Macunovich. No advance registration required. Satisfaction guaranteed: Pay as you leave!

At Telly's Greenhouse: 3301 John R Rd., just north of Big Beaver in Troy, Michigan
\$20 per session. Call Telly's to register: 248-689-8735

At MSU Tollgate Farm Education Center, on Meadowbrook Road just north of 12 Mile Road in Novi. These classes supported by Michigan State University Extension. \$20 per session. Cash or check payable to Janet Macunovich. No advance registration required. Satisfaction guaranteed: Pay as you leave! Class meets in the conference center of Tollgate Farm all dates except January 22 when class will meet in the Tollgate Farm Activity Center.

To my friends in towns not yet listed here: If I haven't arranged a class or talk near you please understand that it isn't a snub. I either go where I'm invited or, beginning this winter, set up classes such as the series above at locations that support this educational effort by providing me space and other assistance. When I polled you last year about locations I received the most positive and specific feedback for the locations included in today's newsletter. I'm still open to suggestions for specific locations in other areas including Detroit's east and south sides.