

Gardening & Landscaping Tips

By: Max Phelps

Why Put Trees in Yards?

Many newly constructed homes look like plastic houses from a Midwestern game—all alike, and all rowed up straight along the street.

These homes, along with driveways, docks, pergolas, are like skeletons in our yards. Well placed trees can transform this image of a skeleton into one of the handsome masculinity, or beautiful femininity with curves and shapes one desires in all the right places.

So, why do we plant trees in our yards? I believe, first of all, there is an internal need in us to restore the natural look which existed before the bulldozers shaved all the trees and sprouts (and topsoil in many cases) away. Seems more building could occur on wooded lots and on hillside instead of the best farmland. But I guess that's getting off the subject.

Trees play many useful roles as they flesh out our landscape. Some we are going to discuss today are framing the house, specimen planting, shade (temperature moderation), windbreaks, screening for privacy, screening of eyesores, attracting wildlife and purely personal preference.

A "specimen" is like a graceful piece of "green architecture" separate from the home or the yard, but so graceful you're proud of it. Unusual, non-native, species of trees are better in this role. After all, what do you do with a Bradford pear or a red maple to make it look special and unique?

Well, if yours is an isolated home on a mountain top, maybe maples or pears would stand out against a woods full of native hardwoods. But for an attention-getting specimen, you need something unusual and outstanding. Trees can be used to complement and "frame" a home. Like a photo with a complementing frame is nicer to look at on your wall than one with no frame.

Well-placed trees can add greatly to the appearance of your home as they grow and mature. Try to plant some species that age gracefully, not just quick growing types that have a short lifespan.



Liquidambar styraciflua - Sweetgum

Trees give us shade. Shade trees, O.K. Besides a place for a comfortable chair or a hammock or picnic table, the shade of a big tree can moderate the climate. Even to the point of reducing the air conditioning bill. On that note—I suggest planting evergreen trees on the north and west sides of a house, and deciduous trees on the south and east sides. The leaves provide shade from summer's sun, but the bare limbs allow winter's sun to find a way through on a cold but cloudless day.

Combined with some shrubs or smaller trees, windbreaks can be created by planting trees some distance away from your house—in the direction the strongest winds come from. Evergreen trees are good—but certainly not the only choice.

Trees can be used as screens. Like to create privacy in your home or your outdoor paradise. If you feel your neighbors are looking out their living room window into your living room window, a tree or a clump of trees can obstruct that situation pronto!

Trees can screen your house, your deck, your swimming pool from passerby.

Let's not forget trees can muffle noise from traffic, and clear pollutants from the air, too. Do a little research before you plant because

some trees don't do well constantly breathing exhaust fumes from traffic.

Shrubs (shrubby little trees) are wonderful at hiding air conditioning units, gas tanks, utility boxes, or lines if they are sited properly. Such trees can do great service at little cost. The goal being a beautiful yard.

Some of us like to attract birds and perhaps other wildlife to our yards. Trees provide nesting areas for feathered friends, shelter from storms, protection from enemies, and often food. Less lawn and more trees is what most wildlife prefers.

If you are still reading, I figure you like trees.

Sometimes we select a particular tree to plant in our yard simply because we like it. Personal preference.

Sometimes our parents or grandparents had a tree "just like this one." Or maybe, "we had one of those at our last house, but it was too big to dig up and move so we bought this little one."

Even if it doesn't like your climate, your soil or even looks' bad, perhaps you should consider experimenting with at least one tree you have loving affinity for.

Trees that make our homes prettier and our neighborhoods nicer are economical investments in our future.

And trees are economical. (Well, just think of the cost of the home! Then imagine spending less than 10% of that amount on trees and complementary landscaping. Let that imagination continue awhile and try to picture how profound an impact is gained from a few hundred or a few thousand dollars invested in the yard.) I don't have room here to list and describe all the suitable trees you might select from to plant in your yard. But I will say you can purchase trees in all sizes. From a small potted tree to a large balled and burlapped tree so big machinery is needed to plant it.

With a little patience you can buy \$50 to \$100 trees that will be just as large and live—in five or 10 years—as if you spent \$300 to \$600 per tree. So many roots are lost in digging large trees, they don't grow much the first couple of years.

For those who want bigger trees sooner, nurseries and landscapers will be happy to sell you larger trees.

Have fun choosing the curves and charms as you flesh out your landscape skeleton!

"Court News"

(Cont. from B-2)

Larry L. Brown: Speeding, paid \$28 fine and \$99.50 costs.

Edwin Glenn Lanford: Overlength and overweight, paid \$100 fine and costs.

Billy Smith: Alcohol intoxication, \$20 and costs.

February 14, 2001

Jerrold R. Smith: Speeding, \$32 and costs, failing to appear, \$50 fine.

Gregory K. Rhoads: Speeding, \$32 and costs.

Jason M. Bullock: Speeding, \$46 and costs.

Steven Dewayne Carnes: Fines due (\$647.85), warrant issued/license suspended.

Thomas J. Carpenter: Fines due (\$206.85), warrant issued/license suspended.

Clayton D. Cox: Fines due (\$274.35), warrant issued/license suspended.

Rebecca J. Cunningham: Fines due (\$365.62), warrant issued/license suspended.

Richard V. Evans: Fines due (\$1,102.85), warrant issued/license suspended.

Ammie O. Gray: Harassing communications, 10 days/probated one year on condition.

Brenda Sue Hayes: Theft by unlawful taking/Disp. Oth., dismissed on payment of court costs and \$75 restitution.

Becky Northern: Possession of marijuana, 30 days to serve 2 credit time served/balance conditionally discharged one year.

Nanette M. Osborn: No Ky. Reg. Plates, No/Exp. Reg. Plates and Failure to wear seatbelt, license suspended for failure to appear.

Richard D. Peendergrass: Alcohol intoxication, \$25 and costs; Possession of marijuana, \$50 fine/confiscate and destroy contraband; Use/Possession drug paraphernalia, \$25 fine.

Larry L. Prather: Theft by deception, \$100 and costs and 10 days/con-

ditionally discharged one year and restitution.

Johnny Ray Rountree: No drivers license, \$100 and costs and 10 days/conditionally discharged one year.

Charles Ray Stallion: Fines due (\$95.85), warrant issued/license suspended.

Cecil G. Thacker: Assault 4th, spouse abuse, dismissed on payment of court costs.

John R. Chance: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Tammy R. Sanders: Alcohol intoxication, \$25 and costs.

Timothy W. Puckett: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, \$200 and costs, \$250 service fee, \$20 VCF, 30 days in jail to

serve 4 balance probated one year/90 day suspension of operators license; Possession of marijuana, \$25 fine/confiscate and destroy contraband.

Patricia L. Rogers: No operators license, \$25 and costs; No insurance, \$500 fine/\$400 suspended on proof of valid insurance; No/Exp. Reg. Receipt, \$25 fine.

Allen K. Stanley: Operating on suspended license, \$100 and costs/30 days in jail/conditionally discharged; No insurance, \$500 fine/\$400 suspended on proof of insurance; Contraption of court, 5 days/consecutive; Driving DUI Suspended License, \$100 and costs and 20 days/concurrent.

GED

Do you need help studying and preparing for your GED?

Let us HELP!!!

GED Tutoring: Wednesdays

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Rockcastle County High School

For info, call Trina Bustle at 256-4816

Sponsored by 211 CCLC RCHS/RATC



Big Community Radio Auction

Sponsored by

Rockcastle Kiwanis Club

with help from WRVK

March 2nd -- 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

March 3rd -- 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

A broad selection of donated items from businesses in the area will be auctioned off to the highest bidder....

Lots of GREAT BARGAINS.

All proceeds will be used by the Kiwanis Club on community projects.

Together we can make a positive difference in our community.

SUPPORT THE RADIO AUCTION

Announcement of a SECOND PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

TO REVIEW ALTERNATIVE CORRIDOR LOCATIONS FOR A PROPOSED NEW CONNECTOR HIGHWAY BETWEEN US 150 IN LINCOLN OR ROCKCASTLE COUNTY AND I-75 NEAR CONWAY IN ROCKCASTLE COUNTY.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2001

SECOND PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING

6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M.

CRAB ORCHARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HIGHWAY KY 39

CRAB ORCHARD, KENTUCKY

The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has scheduled a Public Information meeting to review alternative corridor locations for a proposed new connector highway between US 150 in Lincoln or Rockcastle County and I-75 near Conway in Rockcastle County. The purpose of the meeting is to inform the public of the planning study, discuss various environmental and technical issues concerning the corridors under consideration, and solicit ideas and opinions that will help the Cabinet make decisions about the study. Anyone having an interest in this planning study is urged to attend this meeting.

This open public meeting will have a brief presentation at 6 p.m., followed by an open exhibit area where officials will be prepared to answer questions and/or receive public input. The exhibits will display the alternative corridor locations.

The exhibits will also be available for viewing from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. local time for fifteen (15) days after the meeting at the Kentucky Department of Highways District 8 Office, 1660 South Highway 27, Somerset, Kentucky.

Both written and oral statements will be accepted at the meeting. A recorder will be made available to those who desire to make oral statements and a comment sheet will be distributed to make it more convenient to provide written comments. Written statements will be accepted at the meeting and for a period of fifteen (15) days after the Public Information meeting. Written statements should be addressed to Annette Coffey, P.E., Director, Division of Planning, 125 Holmes Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40622, or returned using the postage-paid comment sheet. All recorded and written statements will become part of the official record. Once compiled, the summary of this meeting and other supporting documentation will be made available for review and copying only after an Open Records Request has been received and approved. All Open Records requests must be submitted to the Transportation Cabinet, Department of Administrative Services, State Office Building, Frankfort, Kentucky 40622.

In accordance with the "Americans with Disabilities Act", if you have a disability for which the Transportation Cabinet needs to provide accommodations, please notify us of your requirements by August 17, 2000. This request does not have to be in writing. Please contact Roger Coffey, Chief District Engineer, District 8 - Somerset, U.S. 27, PO Box 780, Somerset, Kentucky 42501 or call 606-677-4017.

Sheriff Shirley Smith 2000 Financial Status Report

Sheriff: Shirley Smith
County: Rockcastle
Address: PO Box 715
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

Date: 1-31-01
Year: 2000

KLEFFP	14,733.63
Commission from taxes	96,720.17
Arrest fees	1,350.70
Sheriff Security Services	16,954.00
Conveying Convicts	
Delinquency Taxes	1,425.37
Auto Inspections	4,505.00
Serving Papers	4,795.00
Sheriff Fee From County	10,053.73
Insurance Reports	
Interest	115.00
Gun Application	9,786.53
State Fees	9,135.00
Peppi	2,885.00
Loan	77.90
Refund	1,200.00
	2,314.69
Total Receipts	177,120.77

EXPENDITURES	
Operational Expense	145,802.59
Uniforms	1,061.78
Supplies	617.40
Vehicles	3,600.00
Radio Equipment	783.90
Gasoline	9,020.10
Gun Applications	6,590.00
Vehicle Maintenance	7,377.88
Loan	200.00
Total Expenditures	176,053.15
Excess Receipts Over Expenditures	1,067.62

I certify that this statement is to the best of my knowledge, true and correct.

/s/ Sheriff Shirley Smith