

# THE GARDEN PAGE: FOR SALEM'S REAL HOME-MAKERS

## Great Possibilities Exist For Many Whose Home is Adjacent to Flowing Water

The man whose property adjoins a stream or small body of water is indeed fortunate. Many are the possibilities that are open to the imagination of the artist. Suggestion is given in the accompanying plan for a very simple treatment of such location.

The body of water in this case is secondary. It is a part of the vista, which is in reality only a part of the planting scheme. Without the natural planting, the stream would be out of place and would be cold and harsh instead being refreshing. The stream is the background which is refreshing to the tired business man at evening. The trees that overhang and the shrubs in variety which bank the stream are restful to his nerves.

There should be a small terrace above the level of the water just above a heavy mat of lawn planted in such a way that the grass should be placed for the afternoon social hour. This terrace must be suitably shaded with trees and shrubbery in the occasion. Trees whose branches droop are best fitted for planting at the water's edge. The weeping willow and the weeping birch are the most popular of the type that have drooping branches.

It is not difficult to build a new lawn if a few simple rules are followed. It is better to build only a section of your lawn at a time and do it well than to try to do it all and make a botch job of it.

The time to think of your future home grounds is before you buy your property. You cannot expect to raise flowers in sticky gumbo soil. Even heavy clay is very disagreeable to handle. Of course everyone cannot build upon the black loamy soils, and for those who are compelled to make the most of what they have, methods for treating the various soils will be discussed.

The biggest mistake a great many people make comes right at the start. They allow, usually through ignorance, the cultivator to cover the good top soil with the basement clay. Then comes the grief in trying to get flowers and grass to grow in this clay. Why not take a little greater pains right at the start and save hours of worry during the next few years. The good top soil should be carried for enough away from building operations so as not to be trampled by the teams and workmen.

Grading Starts Early The best appearing lawn is the one which has been mowed in straight lines. The wheel tracks will show for a while after mowing and when the mowing is done in straight lines the effect is neat. Mowing with a grass catcher is also the neater method, but where the lawn is weak and a light stand of grass is noted, or to prevent drying out in the hot summer months, the mower should be dropped. Never let the grass drop where there is a heavy stand of grass as the appearance will be very untidy.

The well-kept lawn is always clipped at the edges. When side-walks and lawn are built flush, the turf edger, a small, sharp disc attached to a hand wheel, is used which will quickly and neatly edge the walks. For clipping around the beds and tall objects such as trees and buildings not bordered with beds, clippers should be used. These may be all purchased from any hardware dealer.

The arrangement of the flower beds can easily make or destroy the beauty of the grounds. Good judgment in selecting and placing of the flowers and shrubs puts the finished touch to the home. Perennials should be placed for the greatest effectiveness. Once placed, they need not be changed unless it is decided that a better arrangement is necessary. They should be planted in the same places as they were at the time of their planting, otherwise the item is apt to be entirely forgotten.

It is not wise to complete the final grading with the good soil until the painters and tinner have completely finished. Many a lawn has had to be done over after being trampled down by other workmen.

The majority of good soil evenly distributed over the entire lawn, a good plan is to rake it roughly, then wait a few weeks for the first crop of weeds to sprout. These weeds may then be hoed off and the lawn seed distributed. The seed may have a matting of fertilizer spread just after the first rough raking, allowing the rains to soak it in. The bent and fescue grasses should have a liberal application of some good acid fertilizer, while sheep guano is excellent for the grass and clover. Under no consideration should you spread barnyard manure or lime on creeping bent lawns. In spreading commercial fertilizers, great care should be given to an even distribution and a thorough soaking in with water.

## GOOD SOIL IS LAWN'S BASIS

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After applying the fertilizer, and the seed bed has been raked and finely pulverized, it is ready for the seed. The finer the soil particles, the quicker the seed will germinate. If the lawn is rolled after the seed is sown, it will grow more quickly and evenly. Seed is sown at the rate of one pound to every 200 square feet, which is equivalent to a piece of ground 10 feet by 20 feet. A fairly heavy sowing is necessary to produce a heavy mat of grass. The seed should then be raked in lightly and rolled until the seed has become solid.

Creeping bent grass may be sown alone if desired or may be included in a combination of other seeds. A small per cent. of blue grass, clover, and red top thoroughly mixed with creeping bent form a very satisfactory lawn seed. Although these grasses require an entirely different condition of the soil, they are used as merely fillers and serve as a protection to the expensive bent grass as it begins its growth.

## Attention to Details Will Make Lawn and Home Just As Attractive as Desired

### Lawns Must be Carefully Trimmed, Flowers Beds Laid Out and Cared for With Good Judgment and Real Skill

To have a well-kept home, consideration must be given to a number of details connected with the home grounds. Among the most important are the care of the lawns, flowers, and shrubs, the irrigating and fertilizing, and the weeding.

One so often hears the remark that anyone can mow a lawn, but how well can it be done. It takes only a glance to tell the difference between a well-mowed and a poorly-mowed lawn. The well-built lawn is the easiest lawn to mow. The mower easily runs over the walk that has been built flush with the lawn, but the job is not accomplished as easily where walk is a few inches above the lawn as it is so many times the case. Mowing around the flower beds, whether they are straight lines or curves is the hardest job of lawn mowing.

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## FLOWERS NEED ATTENTION NOW

### Look Over Dahlias Before Planting Time Arrives Advice of Blake

BY FRED BLAKE  
Flower beds must receive a great deal of attention at this time of the year. Weeds grow fastest during the early spring months and a little extra energy with the hoe now will save worry when the days begin to get hot. Don't forget to use good fertilizers freely. You cannot grow good flowers year after year without feeding the soil. The perennials that have made rapid growth must be cared for. Any that are going to grow tall enough for staking should be tied before a heavy rain breaks them down.

Now is the time to look over your dahlias. These may be planted out as soon as danger of frost is over. The roots may be divided by leaving at least two eyes to each root, but it is not advisable to plant out very small roots as they will not become thrifty plants. Any roots that have died during the winter should be thrown out. Never attempt to get good flowers from weak roots.

A few thrifty roots are better than a number of small ones. The roots, or tubers as they are correctly called, should be stored with the stalks down, allowing them to drain. You can save a much larger percent of the tubers in this way. Gladiolus bulbs should also be looked over and sorted. The largest and most thrifty appearing should be saved for the beds and all small bulbs planted out in rows in some out-of-the-way place where they may develop.

Well-Kept Yard Charms Annual plants may be placed in the beds as soon as the soil has dried out sufficiently for working. Plan ahead to make your beds more charming, for there is nothing more beautiful than a well-planted bed of flowering plants. A half dozen plants of one kind grouped together form a very pleasing mass of color. The old beyond methods of alternating flowers is no longer considered attractive, and for the modern home should be kept away from such scheme. Flowers whose colors harmonize should be grouped together. Any good seed catalog will describe the plant as to color and height. Nothing spoils the appearance of a flower bed more quickly than a poorly planned scheme.

Perch and window boxes artfully arranged will add grace and charm to the home. A few tall plants for background will be necessary and a few trailing ones to hang down the front. An assortment should be chosen that will consist of both flowers and foliage.

Vegetables Too Important The vegetable garden should receive its share of attention. Most of the late spring seeds may now be planted. Now is a good time to get out those seeds you have saved from last year. Be sure the seeds are clean and free from weed seeds before you plant them. Never attempt to plant vegetable seeds in a poorly prepared soil. A little additional work upon the seed bed will cause a better germination of the seeds, will save time later, and generally put joy into gardening.

Many people break off branches of spirea and other blooming shrubs to decorate their tables. A little systematic pruning may be brought about by using pruning shears. This leaves a clean cut instead of the ragged break which heals readily and leaves a neater appearance to the shrub.

ization composed of college women that forms contact with freshmen intending to enter college in the fall. Form letters describing the activities of the campus are sent out. Names are given to each big sister who writes personal letters to each freshman during the summer.

Next week will end the shrub planting season. We still have a large selection of evergreen shrubs. Firethorne, azales, daphne, laurels, cotoneasters, etc. Shade Trees greatly reduced in price.

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## Old H. C. L. Struck Hard Blow by Home Garden; Now is Time to Get Busy

One of the surest ways of reducing the high cost of living is to have your own vegetable garden. As early as the soil will permit spading, a few of the old favorites may be planted. The foresight you use now and the planning and the labor will determine the beauty of the garden in July. Will yours be one of luxuriance in fruit and foliage or will it be merely a tangle of tall weeds?

As soon as the ground works up nicely the early Alaska pea should be planted. Also some radishes and lettuce and spinach, and closely following carrots and parsnips. Vegetables from the back garden always taste better and it gives a certain thrill to be able to say that you raised them.

The gardener has either the dwarf or tall growing peas and beans to choose for his garden. Where there is a fence of questionable attractiveness, it would be a good plan to plant your tall growing beans beside it and train them to it. Some people prefer the tall varieties as they are easier to harvest, and being off the ground will not rot with the rains. Beans should not be planted until frosts are over.

Better to Bring Plants Where the gardener has some glass he may easily raise his own plants, but unless he has hot beds or a small greenhouse, it is better to buy direct from a reliable dealer in vegetable plants. Early tomato seeds should be started inside about the end of February, and for late tomatoes about one month later. Pimientos, eggplant, pepper and celery should also be planted inside about the middle of March. Cabbage plants may be set early in the spring, but all other plants, including cauliflower, must not be set until all frosts are over.

Beets and spinach, and other greens should be sowed quite thick and as they are thinned out, may be used as fresh greens. Sweet corn may be sowed with climbing beans, the corn stalks serving as stakes. Squashes, cucumbers, and pumpkins take up a great deal of room but a few are worthwhile. Summer squash and Hubbard squash are among the favorites. Cucumbers may be raised for pickles or for slicing. Cucumbers should be planted in very rich soil. In fact, if you want a first class garden, the whole must receive a good fertilizing each year.

Turnips may be sown broadcast about the middle of July for fall and winter use. Often the gardener sows these seeds upon the ground which has contained the crop of some early vegetable. Every garden has its potatoes. The early Rose may be planted during March while the later varieties should be planted a month or so afterward. Never cultivate the potato after it begins its blooming season.

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## COMPOST BOX STILL IS HANDY OBJECT

The compost box is still used by some people. There are times when a quantity of good rich soil is needed for potting plants, and changing the amount of soil in the boxes or for planting new seeds and transplanting seedlings. New rich soil is necessary to give the strength for new growth. It is seldom that such soil is at hand at the time when the workman takes a notion to work in the flowers. Since it is hard to pick up quickly, a good plan will be to build your own soil and have it when you want it.

The standard equipment for a compost box consists merely of a few heavy planks put together in box form, the exact size of course depending upon the amount of soil used each year, and the amount of decayable refuse gathered from the place. Where space permits, a better compost heap will be produced when it covers greater ground space, rather than a shallow one. A good compost heap should be built in a sunny place, the first place, good rich manure, preferably from the horse stables, when mixed with the sawdust from the wood, leaves from the lawn, some lawn clippings, but not too many, weeds and other quickly decayable material, forms a very rich compost. When turned often with a fork and kept moist, rotting will quickly take place, and in a year's time will be ready to use. The box should be emptied in time to place the fall crop of leaves in for a new mixture. Compost soil is also ideal for spading into the flower beds, shrubbery beds, and vegetable garden, and is a perfect top dress for flowers which serves as a mulch as well as a fertilizer.

## 75,000 BULBS TO BE RAISED AT COAST

Seventy-five thousand daffodil bulbs and 10,000 lily bulbs in the estimated production of the Bay-side Gardens on Nehalem by the Bay-side Gardens, the manager of the ocean-side farm which has a well-nigh ideal climate for the development of flowers. The Bay-side Gardens have been established for three years and have already attracted a large clientele. Mrs. Alma W. Collard is secretary-treasurer of the company.