

Redecorate to give home more spacious look

DELAWARE COUNTY — If your house looks too small and overcrowded, there are little things you can do. You don't need to renovate; redecorating or changing the furniture in your house may be just the ticket, says Greta C. Vairo, extension home economist with the Penn State Extension Service.

Plan you decor for the entire house instead of just one room. Carrying the same color on wall and floors from room to room will create a feeling of openness and spaciousness rather than a cluttered patchwork. Change the textures in the rooms instead of the color for variety. Pale walls will reflect light and make a room seem lighter and larger. Dark colors tend to soak up light and make the room seem closed in.

Place large furniture against walls to leave more space in the middle of the room. You can also expand a room by using a mirror to make it seem twice as large. Modify a bedroom to be an extra family room, study or TV room during the day. Instead of conventional beds, use day beds with bolsters that can be slept in during the night, but used as a sofa during the day. Trundle beds or bunk beds will also save space in these dual-purpose rooms.

Select small-scaled furniture when purchasing furniture for a room. Stay away from massive chests of drawers or tables. Small pieces with simple lines such as dropleaf tables and sofa beds will leave you with more space and give you more choices in furniture arrangements. Small stacking chests or cabinets often serve storage purposes better than big chests and they take up less space.

Cluster items such as the television, stereo, bookshelves and cabinets to eliminate clutter and

increase floor space. Stay away from unnecessary furnishings and pieces of bric-a-brac. Beautiful objects usually need a lot of space for their beauty to be appreciated.

Use every space possible for storage. For example, children's closets can accommodate two clothing bars, one on top of

another. Compartmentalize closets with shoe racks and inexpensive storage devices. Never overlook storage possibilities such as shelves in closets, backs of doors and under beds. Penn State is an affirmative action, equal opportunity university.

Herbs have variety of uses

DELAWARE COUNTY — Aromatic, medicinal and culinary herbs have an ancient and sometimes mysterious past. The Abyssinians stuffed their pillows with celery. The Romans purified the air of their banquet halls with dill, and the French rubbed their babies with artemisia juice to protect them from the cold. Throughout the centuries, herbs have played an important part in politics, literature, romance, religion and health.

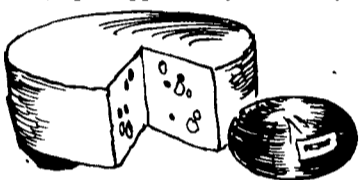
In America, herb gardens were an essential feature in most pioneer homes. As the country grew with immigrants from many nations, so did the variety of herbs. Today, home herb gardeners can find seeds or plants of herbs from all over the world, says C.R. Bryan, Jr., Delaware County cooperative extension service director.

Botanically, an herb is a seed plant that does not produce a woody stem but lives long enough to develop flowers and seeds. Practically, they are grown to use in cooking, scenting, decorating and making medicines. The Brooklyn Botanic Garden "Handbook on Herbs" lists 73 different types of herbs, some of which are used in several ways. Here's a list of some ways you can use homegrown herbs.

- Culinary herbs are probably the most useful to home gardeners. Because of their strong flavors, these are generally used in small quantities to add flavor to cooking. Parsley is a popular garnish. Next in popularity is sage — an important flavoring in pork sausage. Other favorites include chive, thyme, savory, marjoram, mint, and basil.

- Many ornamental herbs have brightly colored flowers or foliage such as valerian, which has crimson blossoms, and borage and chicory, which have blue flowers. Soem have whitish or light-colored flowers, while others such as thyme, mint, lavender, and chives have variegated forms that also add interest to your garden.

- Medicinal herbs are so classified because they have been though to have curative powers. Modern medical knowledge confirms the healing properties of some, but many are highly overrated. Use medicinal herbs carefully. Some are harmless, but others can be dangerous to eat. Penn State is an affirmative action, equal opportunity university.



Kid's Care Fair scheduled

NORRISTOWN — All children ages 2-12 and their parents are invited to attend activities at the "Kids Care Fair" on Saturday, June 9, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Patrick's School Yard, Dekalb Street in Norristown. The event, sponsored by the Penn State Cooperative Extension Service, is free of charge and open to the public.

Activities will include, Rainbow the Clown, games, a breakdancing

contest, story telling, free balloons and refreshments. There will also be educational exhibits sponsored by numerous local agencies and organizations.

For more information, contact the Extension Service at 277-0574.

Penn State Cooperative Extension Service offers educational programs for all persons regardless of race, color, sex, creed, National origin or age.

Target price freeze supported

CIRCLEVILLE, Oh. — "Since early 1983, the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) has supported the freeze on further escalation of target prices," stated the NCGA President John Stevenson. An active corn farmer and cattleman from Circleville, Oh., he explained further "... that the support of the National Corn Growers Association for freezing of target prices was based on three conditions."

- Commitment of the Reagan Administration to attempt to negotiate an enlarged grain agreement with the Soviet Union;

- Substantial increase in federal funding for grain export expansion programs and domestic enhanced demand programs;

- Efforts to improve and increase the facilities under Title III of the P.L. 480 programs to provide long-term and low interest loans to developing countries to up-grade animal feeding facilities to use additional imports of coarse grains.

According to Stevenson, "the National Corn Growers Association and the NCGA voting delegates at the 1983 Annual Convention reiterated and

sustained the support for freezing of target prices if the above three conditions were met."

He continued that these conditions have been met inasmuch as:

- There is in place a new and enlarged grain agreement with the Soviets, with current Soviet grain purchases in excess of eleven million tons from the United States;

- An additional \$2 billion is authorized for agricultural export expansion during the next 18 months;

- Additional funds are appropriated for various P.L. 480 export expansion programs.

With respect to obtaining federal assistance for additional domestic demand enhancement programs, the NCGA president cited the leadership of Sen. Bob Dole, of Kansas, in legislating into law a uniform federal alcohol fuels program to enhance the domestic wet milling industry demand for corn to be processed into alcohol fuels. These enhanced incentives for greater domestic demand for corn have been obtained in federal legislation for taxation, and not in the traditional farm legislation.



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10-6-4

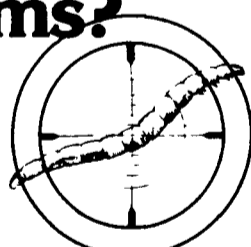
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