

Attracting Visitors Into The **Backyard and Home**

With snow on the ground, birds are ever present in the garden feeding on the serviceberry, dogwood adn grapes.

Provide a source of year-round cover for wildlife and birds. Choose from plants that attract wildlife like blackberry, oak, beech, maple, birch, hickory, aspen, hawthorn or blueberry.

Evergreen trees and shrubs are often in short supply in the backyard. If your yard has too few evergreens, you may wish to plant native conifers (e.g., white pine or hemlock) or selectively remove other trees that are shading the evergreens. Evergreens like hemlock, pine species and columnar arborvitae attract black-capped chickadees, gray or red squirrels, morning doves and nuthatches.

Maintain or create cavity trees in a woodlot or yard. Cavities near streams and forest opening help the most. Fallen logs of various sizes, stumps and cut tree tops provide cover for wildlife. Large trees with large cavity holes are particularly valuable. If your property contains few cavity trees,

you may maintain trees that have the potential to become cavity trees. Here's an easy way to improve the cover on your property,

Brush piles may be constructed using one of three types of bases. The first type consists of four large logs placed one foot apart and parallel to each other; with four more logs of the same size stacked perpendicular to the first logs. The second type of base is made by placing large stones in three piles that form a triangle. The third type of base is constructed of logs and stones by placing four large logs about one foot apart and parallel to each other, then placing large, flat rocks across the tops of the logs. After you have built the base of the brush pile, add brush to the top starting with the larger limbs first, then adding smaller pieces until the pile is about six feet high and six feet wide.

As the weather gets colder, a cheery holiday fire welcomes family and frien is indoor. A few extra friends and foe may arrive when bringing firewood into the

A pile of firewood is an ideal

place for insects and spiders to hibernate through the winter. Always wear gloves when reaching into a wood pile. Spiders enjoy a wood pile for overwintering.

Other insects living in wood piles include: Roundheaded Borers, Flathead Borers, Bark Beetles, Ambrosia Beetles, Powderpost Beetles, Carpenter Ants and Termintes, Horntail Wasps, Carpenter Bees, Darkling Beetles, and Pennsylvania Wood Roaches.

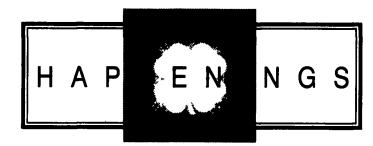
Store firewood outdoors in an open area, as far away from the house as practical, to keep away insects, dirt and Jebris. stack firewood off the ground to eliminate wood rot and pest problems.

Never stack wood against the house. Cover the wood pile with dark polyurethane plastic or sheet metal roofing to keep the wood dry. When severe cold weather arrives, pieces of firewood can be moved nearer to the house for easy access. Firewood should be stored on a rack, patio or deck instead of on the ground.

Bring only enough firewood into the house to be burned immediately. Firewood stored inside the home over an hour or so may warm up enough for the insects to emerge from within or under the bank and start their spring activities early. Do not store firewood in a heated garage or basement for the same reason.

For more information on attracting wildlife, contact your Cooperation Extension office for Forest Stewardship #5, Wildlife.





RUTGERS (Hunterdon County) - The New Jersey 4-H Science & Technology Committee has developed a series of self-contained "4-H Science Discovery Kits," according to Terese Buchanan, Hunterdon County 4-H Agent. These will help youth program staff and volunteers, as well as classroom and after-school teachers, to provide science lessons to youth using a fun, learnby-doing approach. Each kit contains a lesson plan and nearly all of the teaching materials needed to teach the lesson in a hands-on way. The kits can be borrowed, for \$3 and a \$20 deposit refundable when the kit is returned. The kits are aimed at teaching youth in group settings such as 4-H clubs and other meetings, and school classrooms. These lessons were developed by faculty and staff of Rutgers Cooperative Extension. Topics include the following:

• Geology Where you live (Rocks & Minerals - best for grades 3-7)

• Don't Trash the Planet! (Recycling/Sold Waste - best for grades 3-6)

• Tree-Mendous Fun (Trees best for grades 2-3)

• As Big As A Whale! (Whales best for grades 4-8)

A vouth leader or teacher can sign out one kit at a time, for a period of one week. A simple, onepage evaluation/report form needs to be completed when the kit is re-

Conodoguinet 4-H Sheep

The Conodoguinet 4-H Sheep Club will be re-organizing on January 17, 1996, 7:30 P.M. at the Cumberland County Extension Office.

This club is for 4-H members primarily interested in breeding sheep and market lamb projects.

4-H is the youth program of Penn State Cooperative Extension. This and all 4-H programs are available to all youth between the ages 8-19 regardless of race, color, national origin, sex or handicap.

For more information on joining 4-H, contact Laura Watts at the Cumberland County Extension Office, 1100 Claremont Road, Carlisle, PA 17013 - Phone 240-6500, 697-0371 Ext. 6500, or 532-7286 Ext. 6500.



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