Yards to Paradise

By: Max Phelps

Hedges Serve Many Purposes

Much shrubbery, sometimes trees or flowers, can be useful as hedging. Let's consider some reasons for planting a hedge, and some of the plant species that may work in your situation.

Hedging is less trendy at present, but there are still some very real reasons to plant a hedge in our landscapes.

I think the number one reason for hedgerows today in our yards is for privacy.

Plants with many small branches and leaves, usually somewhat upright in form, are preferable, as is evergreen shrubbery.

Neatly trimmed and shaped hedges are considered "formal" hedges.

Naturalized plants are "informal" and require less regular shearing or pruning. (We will cover informal hedges mostly, but several of the plants discussed in the following paragraphs can be sheared into formal grandeur.)

To obtain privacy, use plants with dense foliage, or stagger the planting into a zig-zag pattern, or use more than one kind of plant in a second or third row of plants to create an effective visual barrier.

Here is a fairly long listing of deciduous hedge plants: amur maple, burning bush, broom, blueberry, barberry, bayberry, clethra, chokeberry, chokecherry, crab apples, crape myrtle, dogwoods, forsythia, hazel, honeysuckle, hydrangea, lilac, ninebark, pea tree, potentilla, pyracantha, nandina, photinia, sea buckthorn, Russian olive, spirea, strawberry tree, viburnum (various), willow (some).

These evergreen plants can be used as hedges (you may find others to add): arborvitae, boxwood, Lawson and incense cedar, Leyland cypress, Arizona cypress, camellia, clerya, azaleas, cryptomerja, euonymus (such as Manhattan), junipers, hemlock, laurel, Oregon grape, osmanthus, mugo pine, evergreen viburnum, holly (many varieties, including Foster, Nellie Stevens, China girl, blue princess, and many more), taxus. Double check the cultivar to be sure it is suitable in your planting zone.

One reason to do a hedge is that the beauty appeals to the homeowner. So many of the hedge plants, even some trees, can become great looking hedges with sufficient regular attention.

Again, a more formal hedge requires a lot of work. Plants such as boxwoods, junipers, yews and arborvitae enable a formal look with less effort.

Hedges for purposes of keeping out animals or human traffic are thick, and often include thorns, to hinder easy passage. Barberries are often used for this purpose. Other species could include hawthorn, native wild plum, firethorn (pyracantha), roses, Osage orange, some hollies.

Division of property, including property line plantings, can be done by a row of trees or shrubs. There are many choices, among them: privet, arborvitae, hemlock, Leyland cypress, vibernum, taxus, pines, spruce, holly, burning bush, etc.

Hedgerows are often effective windbreaks. Evergreen trees and shrubs work year-round so are more in demand here. Multiple rows of varied plant materials work better than just a single row of plants for the purpose of slowing wind or snow.

Hedges are homes and hiding places for wildlife. Winged critters such as birds and butterflies depend on protected areas for homes and for hiding from storms and predators. Four and six legged critters love hedgerows too. Trees and shrubs that also bear seed or berries are of double value to wildlife.

Though neat hedges can be more trouble than many landscape features, perhaps some hedges are what you and your yard need so that you may enjoy your space in the outdoors more.

The author is a freelance writer and landscaper. Leave comments or suggestions at www.rockcastles.com

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"Court News"

(Cont. from B-2)

insurance, $500 fine/suspend $450; No operators license, $100 fine; Improper Reg. Plates, $25 fine.

September 30, 2002

David A. Bachman: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Tammie L. Bradley: No insurance, $500 fine and costs.

Paula Campbell: Theft by deception and other charges, criminal summons issued.

Eva Denney: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs and Fines due ($60.85), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Use/Possession Drug Paraphernalia, $100 fine and costs and 30 days in jail/conditionally discharged one year.

Scot A. Evanson: Speeding, paid $129.50 total fine and costs.

Matthew T. Farler: Failure to wear seatbelt, $25 fine and costs.

Jonathan Gross: Fines due ($92.35), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Joseph W. Hutchins: Criminal trespass, 365 days in jail/credit time served.

Tracy D. Isaacs: Fines due ($176.85), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Jesse A. Johnson: Speeding, paid $138.50.

Ottie Monroe Kirby: Assault 4th, 50 days in jail/credit 1 day time served/balance conditionally discharged two years plus $50 fine and costs/suspend fine.

Matthew D. Leichter: Reckless driving, $100 fine and costs and $100 DPA fee.

Jessica L. Lewis: Fines due ($111.05), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Jack W. McHone: Required flotation equipment, reissue summons.

Evelene Mink: Possession of marijuana, $100 fine and costs and 30 days/conditionally discharged one year.

Norma J. Morris: No operators license, $100 fine and costs.

Jackie B. Overbay: Fines due ($247.85), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Thomas C. Payne: Fines due ($131.85), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Thomas Quesne Pheanis: License not in possession, $50 fine and costs.

Bryan D. Phillips: Fines due ($55.85), bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Marion K. Prince: Operating motor vehicle substance impaired, $500 and costs, $250 service fee, $10 victim compensation fund, 30 days/credit 28 days time served/24 month operator license suspension.

Jason G. Raider: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs and other charges, bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Timothy E. Renner: Speeding and other charges, bench warrant issued for failure to appear.

Rebecca A. Richardson: Fines due ($185.50), bench warrant issued for failure to appear/contempt.

Leslie R. Saylor: Defective equipment, $25 fine and costs.

Charles M. Shenberger: Speeding, paid $163.50 total fine and costs.

Tina A. Sizemore: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, $200 and costs, $250 service fee, $10 victim compensation fund, 2 days in jail and 30 day operator license suspension; Refuse brth/bld/urine test, 30 days/to serve 2/credit 2 days time served.

Joshua L. Stewart: Defective equipment, $25 fine and costs.

Janet L. Poore: Speeding, license suspended for failure to appear.

Dewayne A. Martin: Speeding, paid.

Kenneth S. Stratton: 393, FedSafReg Pts Need Safe Op, license suspended for failure to appear.

John P. Touratos: Speeding, state traffic school authorized on payment of costs only.

Eric Fleming Waddell: Speeding, paid $159.50 total fine and costs.

Anthony Baker: Fines due ($179.50), guilty plea to contempt, 10 days in jail or payment of fine and costs; Operating on suspended license, 30 days in jail/concurrent/credit 5 days time served/balance conditionally discharged two years plus $100 fine and costs; No insurance, $500 fine/suspend $450.

Jerry S. Hartness: Operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol/drugs, $200 and costs, $250 service fee, $10 victim compensation fund, 30 days in jail/to serve 4/30 day operator license suspension; Operating on suspended license, 30 days in jail/concurrent/to serve 4.

Jeffery I. Vanzant: Possession of marijuana, $100 fine and costs; 30 day in jail/to serve 3/balance conditionally discharged two years; No Ky. Reg. Plates, $25 fine and costs; No/Exp. Reg. Receipt, $25 fine; No insurance, $500 fine/suspend $450; Failure to wear seatbelt, $25 fine.

Bryan Rose: No insurance, $500 fine and costs/suspend $450; License to be in possession, $25 fine.

Paul E. Cameron, Jr.: Alcohol intoxication, $50 fine and costs; Contempt, $50 fine.

Jennifer R. Bowling: Speeding, $18 fine and costs; License to be in possession, $50 fine.

Virginia montjoy: Failure to wear seatbelt, $25 fine and costs.

Steven Gross: No Ky. Reg. Plates, $25 fine and costs; No insurance, $500 fine/suspend $450; License to be in possession, $25 fine.

Amberly J. Wilson: Speeding, paid $176.

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HENRY DAVID THOREAU, portrayed by Travis Burton, gained fame as an early conservationist. Through his lifestyle and writings he drew attention to the importance of preserving nature's wonders.

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