



# Quick takes on home and garden news

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## GardenScape 2011

It's that time of the year when area gardeners start thinking ahead to spring. And landscapers at GardenScape are busy planning for the annual event. Rock the Garden is the theme for GardenScape 2011, to be held March 17 to 20 at the Dome Center in Henrietta. Area landscapers are already designing colorful garden displays to interpret the theme.

"GardenScape promises to provide a rockin' good time this year," says show manager Sarah Burchell. "Our 2011 theme gives the landscapers a bit of direction, but also plenty of latitude to apply their unique combination of imagination, creativity and wonderment to this annual event."

The poster for GardenScape 2011 was designed by Katy Kuczek of Aurora Design. The central element of the poster is a colorful painting by local [artist](#) Kate Brady Blasio that depicts a garden with a pathway that appears to be the keys of a piano.

In addition to the featured landscape displays at GardenScape, more than 100 vendors will be on hand, and daily seminars will feature local and national horticultural experts. The show also offers the Children's Garden, special early bird tours, and daily [entertainment](#) by local musicians and actors.

GardenScape is a not-for-profit organization whose proceeds from the show help support public and [educational](#) projects such as the Epilepsy Foundation, Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Ronald McDonald House. For more information on the show, including ticket pricing, go to [www.rochesterflowershow.com](http://www.rochesterflowershow.com).

## Tips for Gardeners

### Smartphone tool

Gardeners who rely on their [smart phones](#) for advice now have a new tool. Burpee Home Gardens recently launched the Burpee Garden Coach, a free mobile Web tool designed to help home vegetable gardeners succeed all season long. Through text messages and Web-based interaction by mobile phone, the Burpee Garden Coach supports gardeners for the whole lifecycle of their vegetable plants — from choosing, growing, maintaining, harvesting and eating. To get started, text your zip code to 80998.

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Features of the Burpee Garden Coach include:

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**Timely advice.** Text messages during the gardening season provide planting **date** tips, maintenance reminders and support to improve vegetable gardening success.

**Plant information.** Access to the complete Burpee Home **Gardens** variety lineup.

**My Garden.** The ability to record, document and rate **plants** in a personalized garden journal.

**Weather.** Get local weather forecasts to aid in garden maintenance.

**Recipes.** Harvesting ideas and inspirations from garden to table.

**Retail locator.** Find Burpee Home Gardens plants at local garden centers.

## **Plan for spring**

### **Trees and shrubs**

It's not too early to plan for your spring planting projects. The Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District's Annual Tree and Shrub Program recently launched with all proceeds from this sale going to support the conservation programs at the Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District.

The District now offers more than 55 species of bare-root conifers, hardwood trees, shrubs and groundcovers, as well as seed mixes and other products used in conservation projects. Packages range in unit size and price, from a bundle of 10 plants for as low as \$10, to bundles of 100 plants for an average cost of \$78. Some of the new selections for this year are: Blueberry, Ninebark and Black Gum.

All plants are bare-root stock making them much easier to transport and plant. This is a pre-order program and the deadline for ordering is March 18.

For more information, go to [www.monroecountyswcd.org](http://www.monroecountyswcd.org).

*Staff writer Mary Chao compiled the listings for this column. Send home and garden tips to [mchao@DemocratandChronicle.com](mailto:mchao@DemocratandChronicle.com)*

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