

Summer Days Good Time To Insulate

Summer may seem like an odd time to think about winter comfort and heating economy, but for several reasons it's wise to insulate a house before cold weather sets in.

(1) Insulating during the off-season is more convenient because contractors' crews aren't usually busy at this time.

(2) The house will be fully insulated in time to provide extra comfort during the cool autumn nights that arrive well before winter.

(3) A FAMILY will benefit during summer heat waves because, even without air conditioning, a well insulated house will be cooler than one that's inadequately insulated and much cooler than one that is not insulated at all.

Virtually any house can be properly insulated today, regardless of style, age or exterior building materials. The most popular way to insulate an existing house is by having mineral wool blown into attic floors between joists and into the spaces between wall studs.

Mineral wool insulation contractors use a special pneumatic hose to force the insulation into every crack to form a complete blanket around the living area of a house.

ONE WAY to be sure a house is insulated thoroughly is to follow the Quality Home Requirements of the National Mineral Wool Insulation Association.

These standards call for "blowing wool" or batts or blankets of mineral wool to be installed to provide a resistance to heat loss of R-19 or R-24 in ceilings, R-11 in walls and R-13 in floors over unheated spaces.

The higher the "R" number the greater the ability to block the passage of heat.

Insulating a new addition or attic—where joists or studs are exposed—is a job that many families successfully do themselves.

BUILDING materials dealers have mineral wool batts and blankets labeled with "R" numbers to make selection easy.

Garden Center Has Fascinating Array of Plants

Has your family ever been exposed to the fascinating array of plants found in the modern nursery or garden center?

Here are assembled in one location all the better plants that will grow in the general area, including many whose origin may have been thousands of miles away.

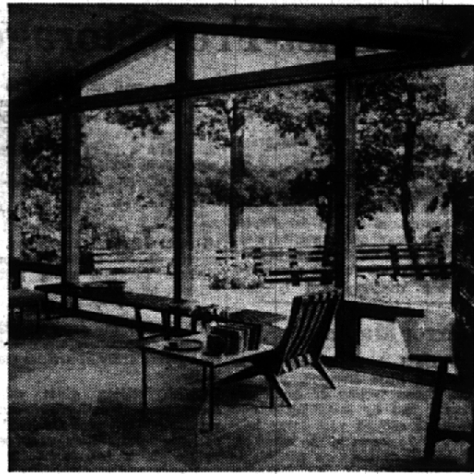
A trip to a nursery can be educational, as well as pleasing. Many nurseries have "special event" days or weeks when certain types of flowers are at their best.

Ho to care for plants, how to make better lawns, how to have a rose garden, how to spray or prune often are explained by various pamphlets. But most thrilling of all are the shrubs and trees and flowers.

PRACTICALLY ALL of the shrubs and trees around homes in suburbia once were in a nursery, where one can see them all together at once.

It is a wonderful opportunity to compare the growth habits and bark foliage characteristics of all kinds of plants from vines that creep over the ground to trees which may have a life expectancy of many hundreds or even thousands of years.

Man couldn't live on earth without trees and shrubs to produce the oxygen we breathe, although ordinarily we think of trees and shrubs only for the welcome shade, the flowers, the fruits and the general beauty they bring into our lives.



Double Duty

Here's a combined living-family room with design features allowing it to function not only as a sitting area, but also as a hobby center reflecting the family's outdoor interests. Versatile furniture and thermopane window walls allow family members to read, work, dine and entertain in the spaciousness of close indoor-outdoor unity.

Yard Fireplaces More Popular

Surveys indicate that this year nearly 90 per cent of all U.S. families will try their hand at outdoor cooking on a fireplace or portable grill at least once. For more than half of the families, cooking and eating outdoors will be a regular event.

And though portable grills still are most popular, there is a trend back to yard fireplace grills among outdoor cooking enthusiasts. The outdoor fireplace not only is an excellent spot for broiling steaks, chicken, or hamburgers, but also can be a focal point for a landscaping plan.

Cast iron grates remain snugly in place because they resist rust and corrosion.

Among portable grills, the hibachi-type has become popular and many American firms now are manufacturing them. They also are made of cast iron and, because of their relatively-small size, are excellent for use at picnic sites reached by car.

WHEN SUCH a unit is con-



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