

Beautiful gardens grown nature's way by local expert

Glenda Bosley is a busy lady! For the past 20 years, she has had a number of jobs, but they have all had a common denominator – nature and doing things naturally.

At an upcoming Couchiching Conservancy workshop on March 20, Bosley will be sharing her secrets for bringing nature to your own garden.

Bosley studied horticulture at the University of Guelph and holds designations as a certified horticulturist and a master gardener emeritus.

In 1979, Bosley began her career working at Sheridan Nurseries tree farm in Oro, followed by several other related jobs.

In 1983, she moved to Toronto, but the lure of wide-open spaces, fresh air and clean water soon beckoned her back to Orillia.

After a stint as landscape manager for Big Cedar Estates, in 1989, she started her own business, Roots and Shoots Landscaping.

Bosley takes pride in offering gardening options that are designed with health in mind – health for the homeowner and health for the garden.

A garden designed by Roots and Shoots offers low maintenance —

Couchiching Conservancy

natural landscapes which will conserve water.

There is no need to buy extravagant garden accessories; instead, use natural plant materials and rocks.

These options are low-maintenance and pesticide-free, and therefore healthy for you and all the creatures that will visit your new little corner of paradise.

Bosley has quite a “natural” reputation.

Over the past several years, she has been the recipient of numerous awards, including:

- Orillia Horticultural Society awards for environmentally friendly large property, best large business, and best miniature garden;
- Communities in Bloom awards for best large business, environmentally friendly large property;
- Orillia Horticultural Society awards for professionally designed and maintained large property, and professionally designed and main-



tained large front yard and small front yard.

In addition, in 2002 and 2003, Bosley had three Garden Tour entries with the Orillia Horticultural Society.

Bosley first became aware of the Couchiching Conservancy through articles written by Dr. Si Lowry about the conservation of the Grant Wetland property.

Since the Conservancy's mission statement mirrored her beliefs, she decided to become a member.

An active member since 2003, Bosley enjoys volunteering her time and expertise to “help educate the public on how to maintain a healthy garden without the use of chemicals.

“I respect what The Couchiching Conservancy represents,” she said.

She also volunteers with Grass Roots Orillia, several horticultural societies, and the Ministry of Agriculture Master Gardener Program.

Bosley's views are clear: “If there was one thing I could do to help nature, it would be to create a healthy environment for all of nature. We need the good and bad for a balanced ecosystem.”

Bosley will be hosting a workshop on 1,001 Garden Secrets on Thursday, March 20 at Grant's Woods from 7 to 9 p.m.

The cost is \$15 per person. Visa is accepted. Call Rose at 326-1620 for more information.

The Couchiching Conservancy will be showcasing some of its volunteers and members in the following weeks.

The Conservancy invites you to become involved – protecting green space for future generations is everybody's business.



Submitted photo

The Marchmont garden for which Glenda Bosley is responsible for at