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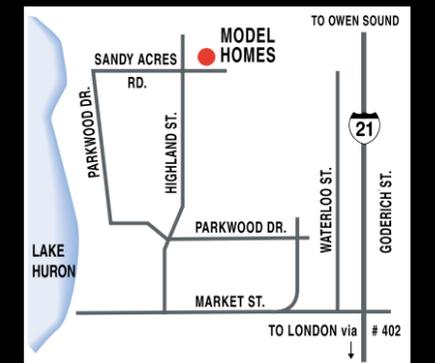
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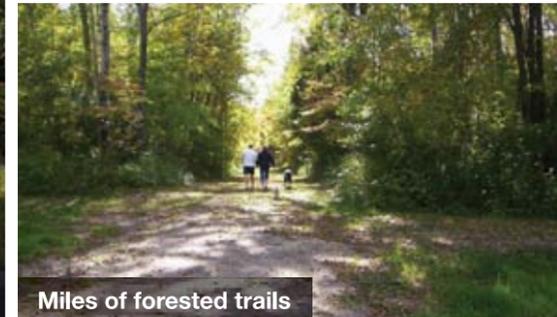


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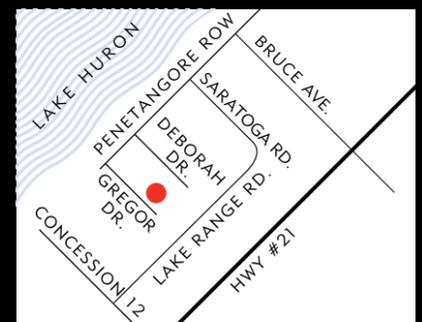


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Welcome home to firing up the BBQ, capturing fire flies and family time around the camp fire. Welcome to your home away from home.



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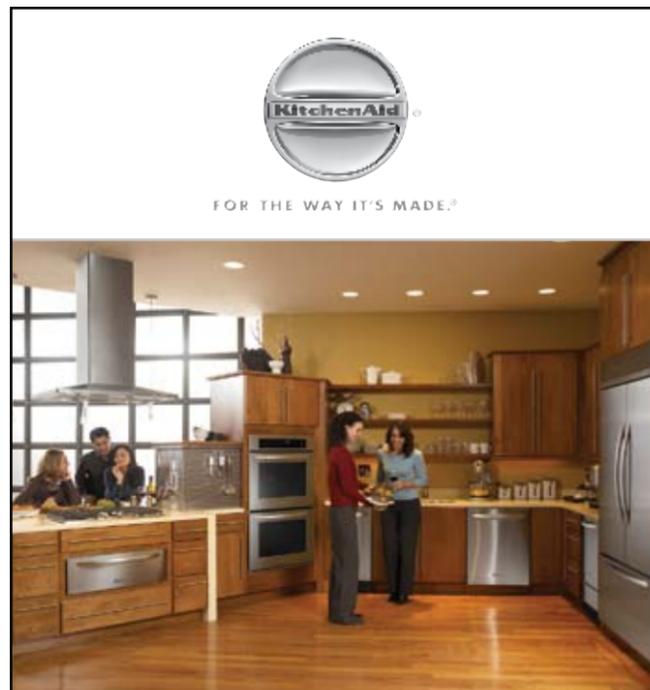
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editor's note

YOU'RE SITTING ON YOUR PATIO sipping a cold drink and listening to your favourite music as it plays quietly through the hidden speakers of the pergola. You can hear the water as it cascades along the rocks into the fish pond and the birds chirp as they splash in the birdbath. The waft of a rose's irresistible scent catches your attention and you close your eyes, taking it all in.



Your outdoor home is just as important as the one framed with walls and a roof, and this is its peak season to shine. Mine is currently in disarray. It needs some serious work. And since your space is meant to reflect your personality, mine has to be green. I am on the lookout for trees and shrubs that can live in large pots in full sun, so I can create an outdoor living space that reminds me of my favourite place – the forest.

I have been asking around about what might work for me. It helps that, for this issue, we've been hanging out with some local landscapers who know the answers to any outdoor living questions you may have. For me, they suggested planting either cedar or dwarf Cyprus trees, as they are hardy and can handle drought and full sun. Plus, they are green all year. They also directed me toward some perennials that would add a punch of colour to my green space, including black-eyed Susans, echinacea, gaillardia, vinca major and spirea. Now, to work out my green thumb.

The crew at Ground Effects Landscape has been designing, digging and building for months, getting yards ready for the season of barbecues and gardening. They share their tips (pg. 30) on creating a personal, highly effective space for enjoying the outdoors, rain or shine. Meet six local landscapers in our trades feature (pg. 40). These men and women are transforming the mundane yard into a haven of tranquility and a place to entertain and spend quality time with friends and family.

Our feature home (pg. 20) is the first private residence in Warton designated with heritage value. Owner Danielle Paterson has spent years researching the history of this gem.

Also, our home and builder feature (pg. 34) is a special one. Exactly one year ago we featured Nancy and Paul Grigg's old stone farmhouse in Balaclava. In this issue, we have been invited into their new home in Meaford. Their custom bungalow is a complete transformation of living space for this charming couple.

I hope this summer issue of OUR HOMES finds you enjoying the sights, sounds and smells of the season in your very own outdoor living space.

Have a splendid summer!

Sincerely,
Samantha Martin

Samantha Martin, Managing Editor
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"What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered." – Ralph Waldo Emerson



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COVER & CONTENTS PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY



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UNILOCK'S AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2008



Designer **Stephanie Redmond** answers your questions. If you need help, send your questions to stephanie@ourhomesmagazine.com

Dear Stephanie,

I really liked your spring column on paint trends. My problem is picking colour combinations, specifically picking a wall colour that matches furniture and accessories. Could you give me some great combinations that will help in my décor decision making?

Susan R.

Stephanie Redmond replies:

Don't just look at the colour of the furniture when choosing wall colours; consider the weight of the fabric as well. A sofa with a heavy fabric such as leather or chenille can take a deeper tone on the walls. A sofa upholstered in cotton or linen will look nice on a much softer wall. For that red wine leather sofa (heavy!), choose something with a little more depth. Same thing applies for your furniture. If you have traditional dark wood pieces, they may appear heavy against a white wall. Your furniture needs a stage that suits its style and feel.

Here are a few combination ideas:

1. **EARTHY:** Chocolate brown sofa + sage green pillows and throw + toffee colour leather chair + crisp white pillar candles
 - Paint solution: Pick up on the toffee colour and use a mid-tone burnt butter colour on the walls
2. **SOPHISTICATED:** Light earth-toned sofa + navy blue pillows + chunky woven baskets + cream cashmere throw
 - Paint solution: Mirror the sofa and pick a light neutral with a brown base
3. **CALM:** Cream linen curtains + light grey upholstery + metal side tables
 - Paint solution: Introduce a bit of colour and choose a butter yellow or a light French blue on the walls

HINT: Take any element with colour into a space to see how it looks – a piece of clothing, a dish towel, a picture frame. This is an ideal way to test drive a colour without the long term commitment!

Dear Stephanie,

We just installed new hardwood flooring throughout the main floor of our home. I would like to purchase some area rugs for the living room/dining room but I have no idea how to determine what size I need. Is there a set standard? Should I buy two rugs for the same room or one big one? I also don't want to spend a fortune.

Janice C.

Stephanie Redmond replies:

The biggest mistake that people make with area rugs is going too small. A guideline to follow is that your furniture should sit comfortably on your area rug. You can inset the rug under the back of the sofa, but leave at least eight inches so that it doesn't look like an error. If you have ample space, allow chairs to sit comfortably on the area rug. Don't skimp. As far as one or two rugs go – if your space is very large or walls indent to decipher one room from another, then use

two carpets in the same style. This gives the illusion of a larger space. If your space is quite small, use one large one to lengthen the room. Area rugs are not inexpensive and they are long term purchases. Make sure you inform your carpet dealer of what your needs are, whether you have children or pets, and your budget. Ask about stain resistance and edging details.



HINT: Use green painter's tape to tape out the size of the rug you think is right and then measure it!

Dear Stephanie,

How can I use framed mirrors to make a room look larger?

Charlene W.

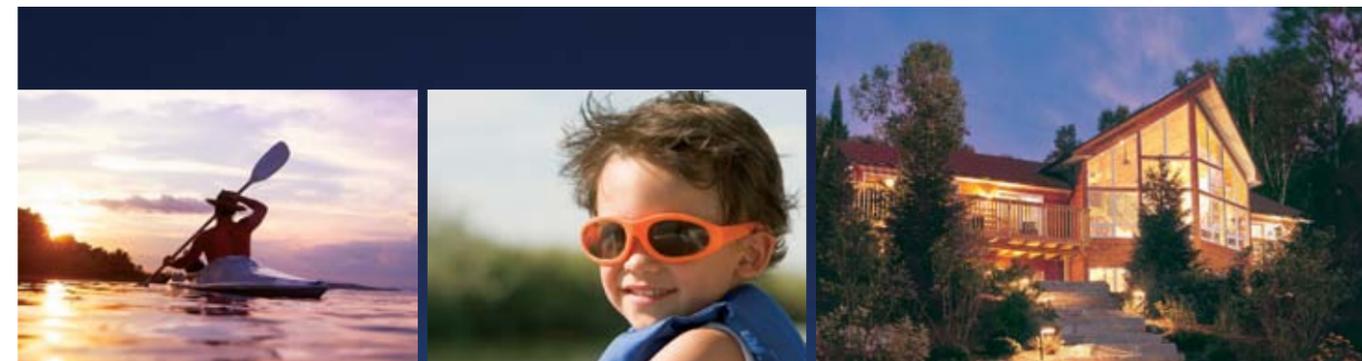
Stephanie Redmond replies:

The options are endless, but I have one guideline: Place your mirror on a side wall, not on a wall facing an entry. You shouldn't feel as though you are walking towards yourself every time you enter a room.

A mirror will act as a window reflecting light into a space. Try a starburst above a fireplace or a slim framed mirror on a side wall. Line up two or three of the same mirror (horizontally or vertically) for an even more compelling reflection. Cluster small mirrors to add a fun sparkle, just as you would group a selection of your favourite family photos. Be bold! Don't be afraid to use a large piece in a small space. This will add some much needed scale. Can't find the right mirror? Visit a frame store and have one made that suits your décor.

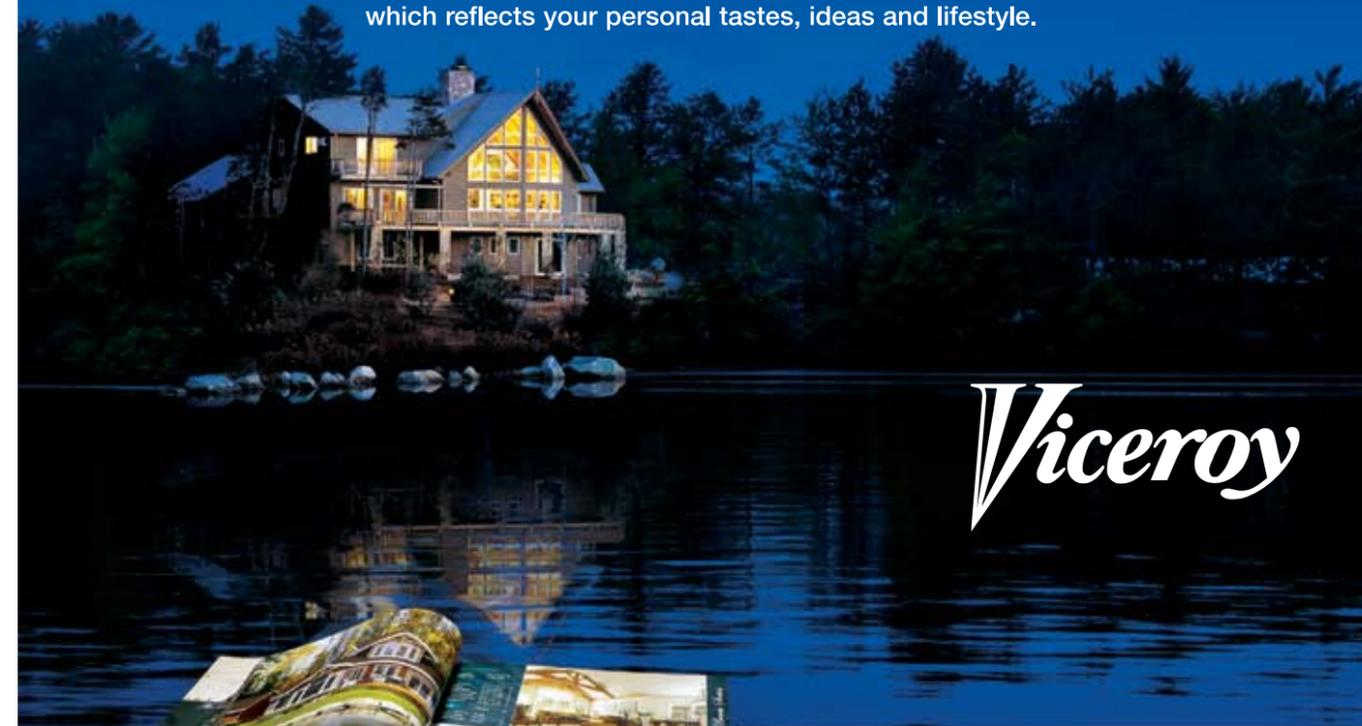


HINT: Have a friend hold up your pieces to see what the mirror will reflect once it's hung. You don't want to make holes in a wall only to discover that you can see your toilet from your living room sofa! **OH**



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“Gardening is the art that uses flowers and plants as paint, and the soil and sky as canvas.” – Elizabeth Murray

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Continued on page 18

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(4) Cottage Carpet

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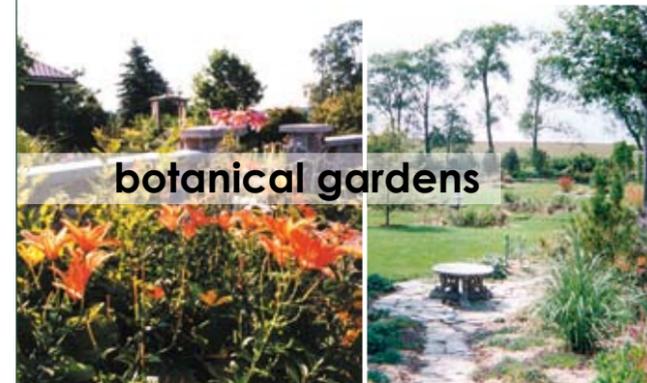


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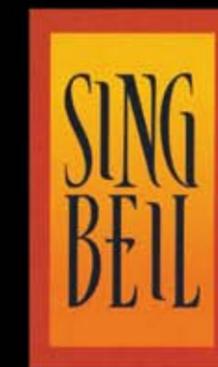
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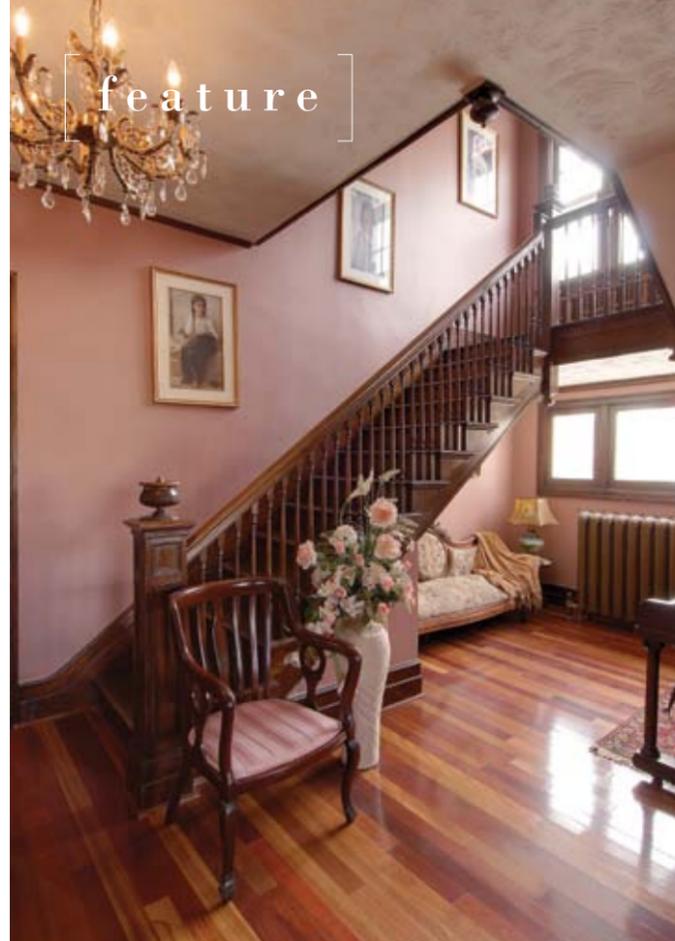
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The front parlour is a classic space with a view through the original windows onto the old-fashioned front porch.

LEFT: The original staircase is the first thing guests see upon entering Gadd-About.

BELOW, STARTING FROM LEFT:

The brick with the stonemason's signature and date blends into the Victorian home's exterior.

Owner Danielle Paterson has put a great deal of work into the gardens surrounding the bed and breakfast, welcoming guests with colour and cheer.

Paterson and her champion standard poodle, Gracie, greet each guest to this historic town treasure.

Gadd-About got its name from the bed and breakfast's goal of having visitors to town roam about leisurely, exploring the area.

Heritage HONOUR

BY SAMANTHA MARTIN // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

It was 1903 when a stonemason carved his signature into a brick of an old Victorian house overlooking Colpoy's Bay in Wiarton. He masterfully laid the substantial addition to the original, five-bedroom home and right then and there became a part of history.

Danielle Paterson found the brick when she was working the grounds of her newly acquired bed and breakfast in the quaint town, starting a new chapter of her life in a historic chapter of Wiarton's heritage.

The **Gadd-About Bed and Breakfast** has been deemed the first private residence in Wiarton designated as a "property of architectural, cultural and historic heritage value."

Walking through the front door into a large foyer surrounded by intimate spaces for gathering or relaxing, it's easy to see why this Edwardian-period, Georgian-revival home has received this designation from Ontario Heritage.

The home and the property it sits on are not only historical claims to fame for the people of Wiarton, but have been owned by some major players in the area's and the country's story. *Continued on page 22*





An office, filled with natural light, provides a laptop, internet access and another spot to relax.

OPPOSITE PAGE:

TOP LEFT: A buffet, located in the formal dining room, stores a wine collection and provides space to display breakfast goodies.

TOP MIDDLE: Antique collections fill this home, each with its own interesting story that Paterson is always willing to share.

TOP RIGHT: Paterson's kitchen is key to the running of Gadd-About. She renovated this room to suit her baking and cooking needs.

MIDDLE: The living room is where the original fireplace, with ceramic tiles and ornamental back plate, keeps guests cosy.

BOTTOM LEFT: The radiators have been heritage designated. They were designed and installed by previous owner, Charles Miers.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The oak staircase was one of the reasons Paterson decided to buy this home the moment she stepped through the door.



In 1883, Sir Alexander Campbell, a father of confederation, minister of justice and attorney general of Canada, bought the property. In 1894, Thomas Hurst, a humble carriage merchant, bought the property and built the original wooden house for his family. He went on to change his occupation from humble carriage maker to wealthy lumber merchant. He became one of the top five income earners in North Bruce County in 1901.

Hurst sold the home to his business partner, David Porter of Dominion Portland Cement Co. in Wiarton, who then sold it to David Wright in 1903. It was at this point that the brick addition was built and the stonemason made his mark.

Now, guests are welcomed into the stately, historic bed and breakfast by Paterson's warm, friendly, genuine smile, as her champion standard poodle, Gracie, welcomes in her own shy way. They are encouraged to do as the name suggests and gad about town: walking leisurely to take in this unique spot. (The extra "d" was added by the previous owner to include all her children's initials.)

Paterson had been working in the medical field for years when she realized she needed to make a lifestyle change to save her sanity and get back to the basics. She had wanted to run a bed and breakfast for years and was looking at potential places along the Bruce Peninsula when her real estate agent told her about Gadd-About. She resisted for six months, not knowing where Wiarton was and believing the home was not right for her. After much persistence, she gave in and it was love at first sight the moment she walked through the door.

The original staircase caught her eye first. She turned to her left and

saw the fireplace with the original ceramic tiles and ornamental back plate. That was it. She bought the home and business and moved her life from Port Credit to the beauty of the Bruce and has been welcoming guests for six years since. "I love it when things have a story," says Paterson.

She also loved that the home was separated, yet still open. Two front rooms – one an office with wireless Internet and a laptop, a helpful feature for pilots and sailors who need to keep an eye on the weather; the other a front parlour for having morning tea or just reading a good book from Paterson's classic collection.

The living room is typical of its day with a central fireplace and high ceilings. Dark wood paneling with plate rail surrounds this space and provides shelving to display smaller antiques.

The radiators are one-of-a-kind. Long-time owner of the home, Charles Miers, whose family lived here from 1917 until 1961, worked as a steamfitter and plumber and outfitted the home with numerous radiators, each with a row of valves, designed to expel excess air easier. The atmospheric clanging of the pipes adds to the home's heritage feel. These sturdy features that radiate heat throughout the home are special, heritage-designated elements of the structure, along with the staircase and fireplace.

The kitchen, a very important feature of every home let alone a bed and breakfast, was very cramped. Paterson knew she would have to do a lot of work in this space to make it a convenient work space for her breakfast baking and cooking. The high ceilings had been lowered to eight feet. There was only a total of 15 inches of counter space to work on and the counters sat much too low. *Continued on page 24*

feature

RIGHT: One of three guest bathrooms, the jacuzzi bathroom is always a popular treat after a long day of hiking or exploring.

BELOW: The Kasbah room is a dreamy getaway for guests, featuring a king-sized bed and wing-style love seat.



Paterson had the ceilings and counters raised, added a large island and cabinetry (**Durnin's Custom Cabinets**) and moved the fridge around the corner at the far side of the kitchen to free up more working space.

Upstairs is all for the guests. There are four rooms to choose from. At the top of the stairs is the Kasbah room, named for the king-sized bed that wouldn't fit down the hall. The next room is The Captain's Room, bathed in blue and white and featuring both an electric fireplace and private balcony. From there you'll find Forest Glade, a room with either twin beds or a king when they are combined. And last is the Jewel Room, dressed in jewel-like tones of gold and ruby with a gas fireplace.

There are three bathrooms at the back of the second floor, each with their own character and one with a Jacuzzi tub. Paterson, who hates a weak shower, had the pipes enlarged during renovations to provide an invigorating experience for guests.

She agrees with what guests have told her about the warmth of this home. "When you're sitting over by the fire, it's like the house hugs you," says Paterson, claiming the old, antique chair by the fire as her favourite place, noting that groupings of lit candles only emphasize the cosiness. "It's just so relaxing." *Continued on page 26*

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The Forest Glade room features twin beds that can be turned into a King-sized bed. The window looks out onto the beautiful gardens.

BELOW LEFT: The Captain's Room is a bright space with three large windows, a private balcony and an electric fireplace.

BELOW RIGHT: Bathed in gold and ruby, the Jewel Room is closest to the bathrooms and features an electric fireplace for added comfort.

Many historical, original features have been preserved. Most windows, including stained-glass transoms over the large, front windows and door, have kept their places (**Warton Window and Door**). The old-fashioned front porch and balcony were restored while the main floor features clear Brazilian cherry wood floors to work with the original oak trim (**Murray's Renovations and Hardwood Floors**).

The plumbing (**Kreuzweiser Plumbing**) and wiring (**Central Electrical and Mechanical**) throughout the home were updated to today's standards.

There are also some new features Paterson has added to this historic home. The back deck and fencing (**Dave Richardson**) were added last year to create outdoor space for guests to enjoy good weather and the gardens Paterson has worked so hard to create.

Featured in "The Best Places to Bed and Breakfast in Ontario" directory, Gadd-About was run as a bed and breakfast for seven years

before Paterson bought the home. The business is a busy one. Paterson says she is as busy as she can be for one person. "I want to be busy enough that I can still enjoy all the people coming through, but not feel overwhelmed," she says, noting that she had only three days off last August.

"It really is a pretty little town," she says of the location she resisted checking out many years ago. "The architecture of the main street and all the little nuances of that architecture, it's really quite nice."

Paterson feels at home here. "The Warton people are extremely inclusive," she says. She is also grateful for the helpful network of bed and breakfasts in the community. "If somebody's found an easier way to do something, they'll share it."

She is sure there is even more to this old place's story, but Paterson is ready to start yet another chapter in her book and leave the next chapter of this heritage home to new, curious owners. **OH**



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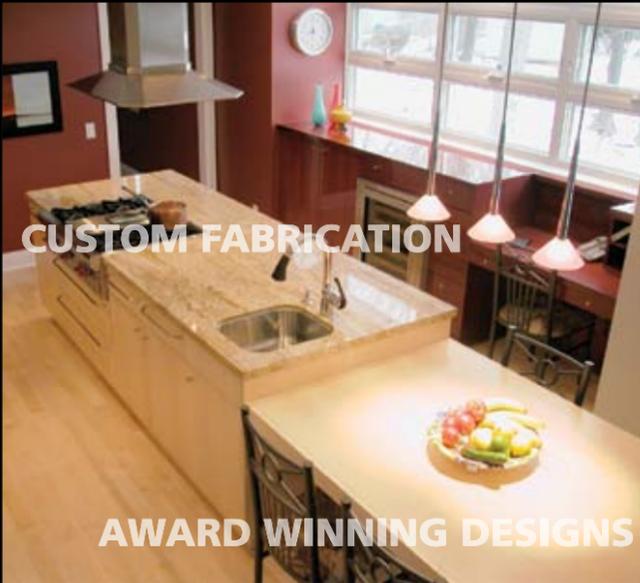
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THE LANDSCAPERS: Ground Effects Landscape in Hanover creates ideal outdoor spaces that flow and blend with a home, seamlessly connecting the structure to its natural surroundings. Owner Tim Kraemer and his team provide award-winning services in all aspects of landscaping – consultation, design, construction and maintenance.

UNIQUE: Ground Effects works closely with landscape architect, Paul Brydges, who has been designing one-of-a-kind spaces for more than 15 years and is continuously trying new things and developing inventive design elements to help express a homeowner's personality and specific tastes.



Tim Kraemer and his family spend every spare minute in their outdoor living space, designed to mimic an old mill.

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PLANNING: Always begin with a plan and think functionality first. It doesn't matter how beautiful the space is if it doesn't work. How much space is available? How do you plan to use the space? Do you want a place for daytime use with children or a quiet, intimate evening space? "The needs of the client are my number one priority," says Brydges. Kraemer has created an outdoor space for all seasons at his home. "It's our cottage in our own backyard," he says, adding "Canadian outdoor spaces shouldn't be designed for just one season."

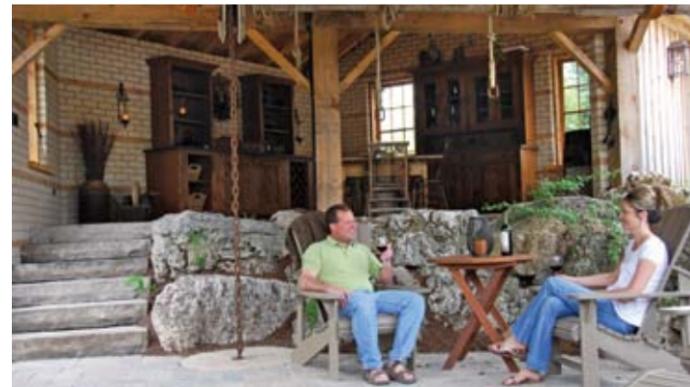
THE MISSION: Ground Effects specializes in providing fresh and unique outdoor living spaces that will be enjoyed for years to come. The company won two awards in Landscape Ontario's Awards of Excellence this year for residential construction and special interest construction.

MATERIALS: Limestone, flagstone, granite and river rock are favourites because of their colouring, especially when wet. For wood, pine, cedar and hemlock all withstand the outdoors well. Native plant material, mulch to keep the weeds down and recycled timbers are staples for Ground Effects as well.

FEATURES: "We do a lot of outdoor fireplaces," says Paul, adding that fireplaces make the space available for all four seasons. "No garden is complete without a water feature," he adds, noting that features can range from extremely simple to being the focal point of the entire space. Enclosures, such as pergolas and rock walls, and low-maintenance plants make a space comfortable and homey.

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The Grigg home is simple beauty. The bungalow is located beside the Meaford Golf & Country Club and just a short walk to downtown.

TOP RIGHT: The back patio is a sunny, breezy place to sit and watch the birds or lounge in the hot tub with a glass of wine.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The comfortable, bright dining room is open to the living room. Nancy designed both rooms to be casual for daily use.



From Country TO TOWN

BY JIM FOX // PHOTOGRAPHY BY SANDY MACKAY

The home is entirely different, the neighbourhood fresh and new and the homeowners have found the place where they belong, once again.

The summer 2008 edition of OUR HOMES featured Paul and Nancy Grigg's beautiful, fieldstone farmhouse on 100 acres of land overlooking Georgian Bay. Since then, like many couples whose children have grown and left home, the Griggs' lives, lifestyle and tastes have changed. For them, the change has been a good one, leading to revitalized lives and a new home setting.

The Griggs' country farmhouse, with its board and batten addition, vast grounds and ample gardens, have given way to a modern bungalow on the western edge of Meaford in a subdivision developed by **Rogers Enterprises**. The company, representing builder Laverne Rogers and his son Ian specializes in constructing custom homes and chalets. *Continued on page 36*



The church window turned mirror from the old farmhouse was brought to the new home, where it suits the space even better.

TOP LEFT: The white and olive kitchen was planned for convenience. Extra space was sacrificed from the bathroom next door to accommodate a large pantry for storage.

BOTTOM LEFT: Featuring a sleek glass sink, this main floor bathroom is natural and modest.

MIDDLE: Antiques from the old home have been planned into the design. This ship has its own spotlight and casts an intricate shadow onto the ceiling.

Nancy is unequivocal in her praise of Laverne's efforts to make the Griggs' transition a positive experience. "The builder was so good to us," Nancy says with genuine enthusiasm. "Laverne was so easy to work with – it was fabulous. We actually interviewed three neighbours in the development before we bought here and there's no doubt about it, the Rogers are just good people."

Nancy says their home is not just a plain bungalow because it has many extras built in. "It's deceiving from the outside when you consider how much space there is inside."

Some of the extras include a built-in audio-visual system that allows for wall-mounted, wide screen televisions without wires and discreet surround-sound stereo speakers upstairs and down, linked invisibly to a sound system by **Fast Forward Audio Video** tucked away in an accessible, recessed cupboard. Another closet in the ground floor washroom has been thoughtfully pre-wired for the future installation of a stacked washer and dryer unit.

Another unique feature is a heating system with dual thermostats that work separately to draw heat upstairs or down when required. In addition, Paul has a place for his treasured sailing mementos in the insulated double garage that also serves as his workshop. The extras even incorporate a small,

customized "cat door" to allow the family cat access to the kitty litter without interference from the family dog. All of these builder accommodations coincide with Nancy and Paul's philosophy that a home is meant to be lived in. "We wanted a house where we don't have to worry about grandchildren touching things," says Nancy. "That's what's really important to us."

The sense of casual comfort is exuded by Nancy's warm greeting as you enter the Griggs' home. After appreciating the exterior, clad in tasteful grey stone, and accented with low-maintenance plants from **Ormsby's Garden Centre** and **Westside Nurseries & Greenhouses**, you enter through a dramatic front door with a Frank Lloyd Wright design in gold, black, bronze and clear glass. The same motif is picked up again in the high, clerestory window of the master bedroom. "That window is so beautiful in the morning," says Nancy. "With the light streaming in, it's a great way to begin the day."

Nancy is also pleased with the two large closets that grace either side of the spacious entranceway. Down the high-ceilinged hall to the open kitchen and living area, the Rogers' home design incorporates many different levels that allow for the display of family artwork and sculpture, many created by the homeowner herself.

The kitchen, by **Van Dolder's Kitchen & Bath**, with its contemporary

white cabinetry, brushed nickel accents, stainless steel appliances and earth-toned Corian countertops against a backdrop of taupe-coloured vertical glass subway tiles, captures the design elements that Nancy hoped for. She calls it, "a balance of the modern and the traditional – a simplified look, rather than ultra-modern."

The same combination of clean, modern lines set against the family's cherished collection of prized antiques is found in the dining area with its light lime suede deacon chairs surrounding a wooden pine table beside an antique, wooden china cabinet.

Premier Hardwood's Olmstead hickory, five-inch plank flooring, from **Deans Carpet One Floor & Home**, links the kitchen and dining areas to the living space, with its comfortable wine-hued easy chair complemented by a suede tan sofa and loveseat from **Country Charm Mennonite Furniture**. This gathering space looks out through worry-free, custom-built shutters, also from Deans, onto a back deck with a barbecue for outdoor dining and a luxurious hot tub by **Clark Pools and Spas**. On the spacious lawn beyond stands an elegant wooden birdfeeder from **Sydenham Sportsmen's Association** of Owen Sound. As testimony to the generosity and care of the builder, the Griggs' feeder was erected free of charge.

Continued on page 38

TOP RIGHT: The dark wood vanity in the en suite holds a gorgeous glass bowl sink and features fade lighting.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The master bedroom is a romantic hideaway for this passionate couple. Their dog, Sophie, doesn't mind having less space to roam.

BELOW: The main floor guest bedroom makes use of the antique furniture from the previous home. It has been reupholstered to suit the current décor.



The rest of the home is a similar appealing mix of crisp modern lines with individual historic pieces – from an aunt's century-old matrimonial bed in the guest bedroom, accented by chic cream and black stripes, to the rich, dark cabinetry of the master bedroom's en suite bath.

When asked about the dramatic move from a large country estate to their smaller present location in town, Nancy's answer is enthusiastic. "In the past, when we were on our boat, a 35-foot Niagara named "Lyric," I used to think that I should be home cutting the grass. Now we don't have to! Paul didn't want to give up his garden. But now that he's here, he loves it...Paul decided he didn't want to be owned by his possessions." Part of the reason for the move, Nancy confesses, is that her husband is closer to Meaford harbour and the sailboat that she affectionately calls his "girlfriend."

"As corny as it sounds, that farmhouse was our baby," says Nancy. "It grew up with us. But it was time to let it go. The new owners have become great friends of ours. We just love them. They're so gung-ho about the property. As Paul said, it was time to pass on the baton, time to move on."

A meditative calm pervades the Griggs' abode in Meaford, thanks to a sensitive builder and a couple whose warm, welcoming nature has made their new home just as inviting and comfortable for visitors, friends and family as their old farmhouse had been. **OH**

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FAVOURITE MATERIAL: Cut flagstone
PREFERRED TREE: Blue beech, similar to an elm with a pleasing leaf structure
WHILE YOU WORK: Benj likes it quiet and is always thinking about new designs.
LUNCH: Salad, yogurt, water and fruit
FAVOURITE FEATURE: Sculpture and pergolas
BEST TIME OF DAY: Early morning
FRONT OR BACKYARD: Backyard
TIP: Design first.



▶ Mike McQuiggin

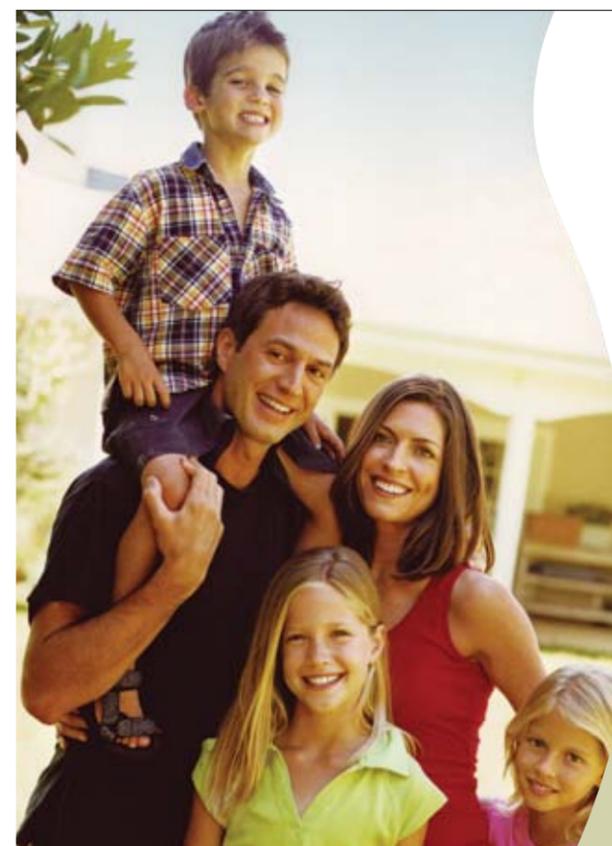
COMPANY: Shoreline Stone and Garden Centre
FAVOURITE MATERIAL: Natural stone
PREFERRED TREE: Paperbark Maple
WHILE YOU WORK: "I listen to rock music."
LUNCH: Sandwiches and protein bars
FAVOURITE FEATURE: Natural stone waterfall
BEST TIME OF DAY: Break time
FRONT OR BACKYARD: Backyard
TIP: Take your time and make sure you know what you want before you start.

Continued on page 42

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Jim Heather ▶

COMPANY: Maxwell Landscape and Masonry Supply

FAVOURITE MATERIAL: Grass

PREFERRED TREE: Birch and evergreen

WHILE YOU WORK: "I focus."

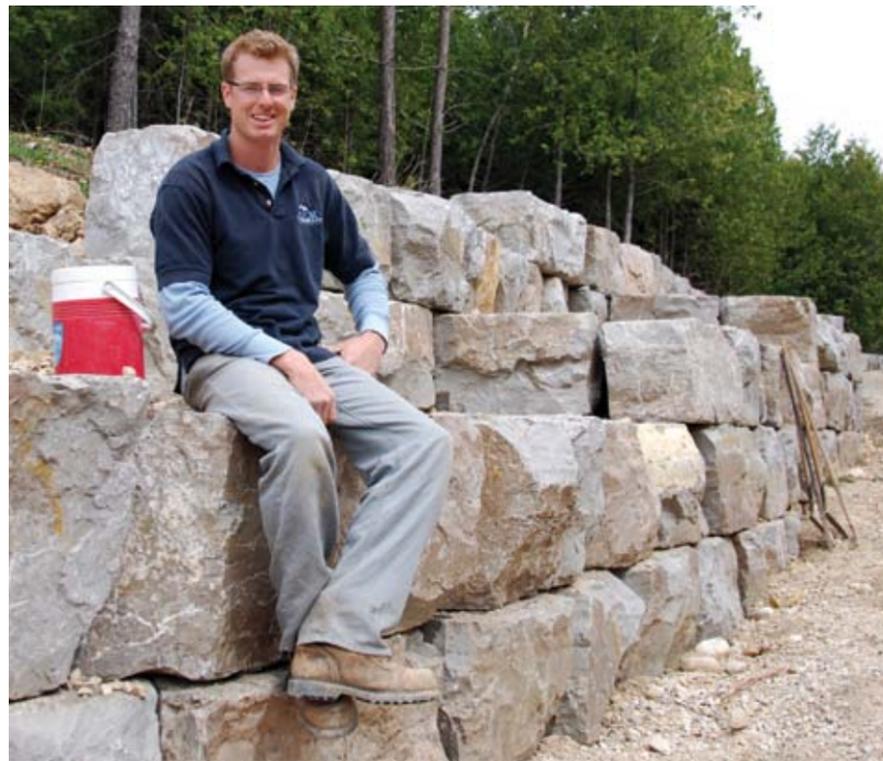
LUNCH: Fruit

FAVOURITE FEATURE: Waterfalls

BEST TIME OF DAY: The morning

FRONT OR BACKYARD: Backyard

TIP: Go for the green.



◀ **John Pedlar**

COMPANY: Rock Solid Landscapes

FAVOURITE MATERIAL:

Armour stone

PREFERRED TREE: English oak

WHILE YOU WORK: "I do a lot of daydreaming."

LUNCH: Fresh summer sausage sandwich. "It's my favourite."

FAVOURITE FEATURE:

Water feature

BEST TIME OF DAY: Three in the afternoon

FRONT OR BACKYARD: Backyard

TIP: Get a landscape design.

Continued on page 44

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◀ Ron and Karen Charron

COMPANY: Yesterday's Garden Centre and Landscaping Construction

FAVOURITE MATERIAL: Rare, unusual, hard to find conifers, trees, shrubs and perennials

PREFERRED TREE: Parrotia Persica 'Kew's Weeping' or Metasequoia Gold Rush

WHILE YOU WORK: "I'm thinking up encouraging sayings for the business's welcome sign."

LUNCH: Bagel on the run

FAVOURITE FEATURE: Water feature or distinctive trees

BEST TIME OF DAY: Early morning as the sun is coming up

FRONT OR BACKYARD: Frontyard

TIP: Plant wisely and know how big the plant will be.



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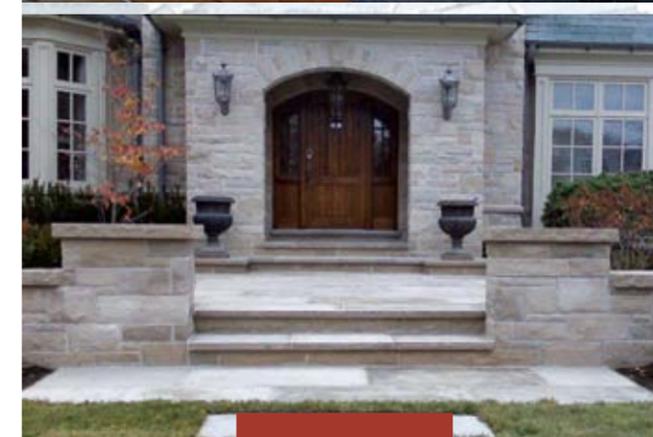
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Brenda Roppel ▶

COMPANY: Brian W. Folmer Landscaping and Garden Centre

FAVOURITE MATERIAL: Mulch. "It keeps the weeds from growing up."

PREFERRED TREE: Magnolia

WHILE YOU WORK: "I sing."

LUNCH: Chili, sandwich and salad

FAVOURITE FEATURE:

Pond or gazebo

BEST TIME OF DAY: Mid-day

FRONT OR BACKYARD: Backyard

TIP: Use lots of mulch. oh

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Our store is open 7 days a week from May till October 9 - 5. Visit www.brucecandles.com for all your online shopping. 197 Miller Lake Rd, Miller Lake, ON, 519-795-7856 (Please see ad on page 17)

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"It doesn't make economical sense to use an agent", says Leanne Carter. A recent article, appearing on the consumerreports.org web site, from September of 2008, helps explain it more. It reported, among other things, that paying commission is often a poor investment.

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That's the message that PropertyGuys.com has been spreading across Canada for over ten years. 25,000 sellers have already used the program, and the PropertyGuys.com business is growing steadily - even right now. PropertyGuys.com has saved their customers over \$125 million in commissions so far, but that's just a drop in the bucket compared to the estimated \$6 billion that real estate agents generated in commissions last year alone.

PropertyGuys.com and the Carters help you to sell your home and pay yourself. They help with the signage. They generate buyer leads from their jet-fuelled, industry leading web site. They have tools like the "Offer Maker" that help buyers and sellers navigate through the paperwork and negotiate with one another more effectively. Simply put, everyone gets more value for their money. PropertyGuys.com empowers the property seller to show their own home because there's no one more qualified to show it than them. This stands to reason, because no one knows the property or the neighbourhood better than the owner. Make no mistake, as a property owner you know a lot.

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finishing touch

BY SAMANTHA MARTIN // PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

PLANT YOUR OWN *Vegetable Garden*

There's nothing sweeter than moseying to the yard (instead of the grocery store) and plucking a ripe, juicy tomato from the vine, digging up the moist soil for a couple of potatoes and a handful of bright orange carrots and choosing some yellow and green beans for dinner. It's organic. It's basic. It's pure.

It's easier than it may seem. Cast away your gardening woes and try your hand at planting your very own produce aisle. You'll be patting yourself on the back come late summer when your trips to the grocery store turn few and far between.

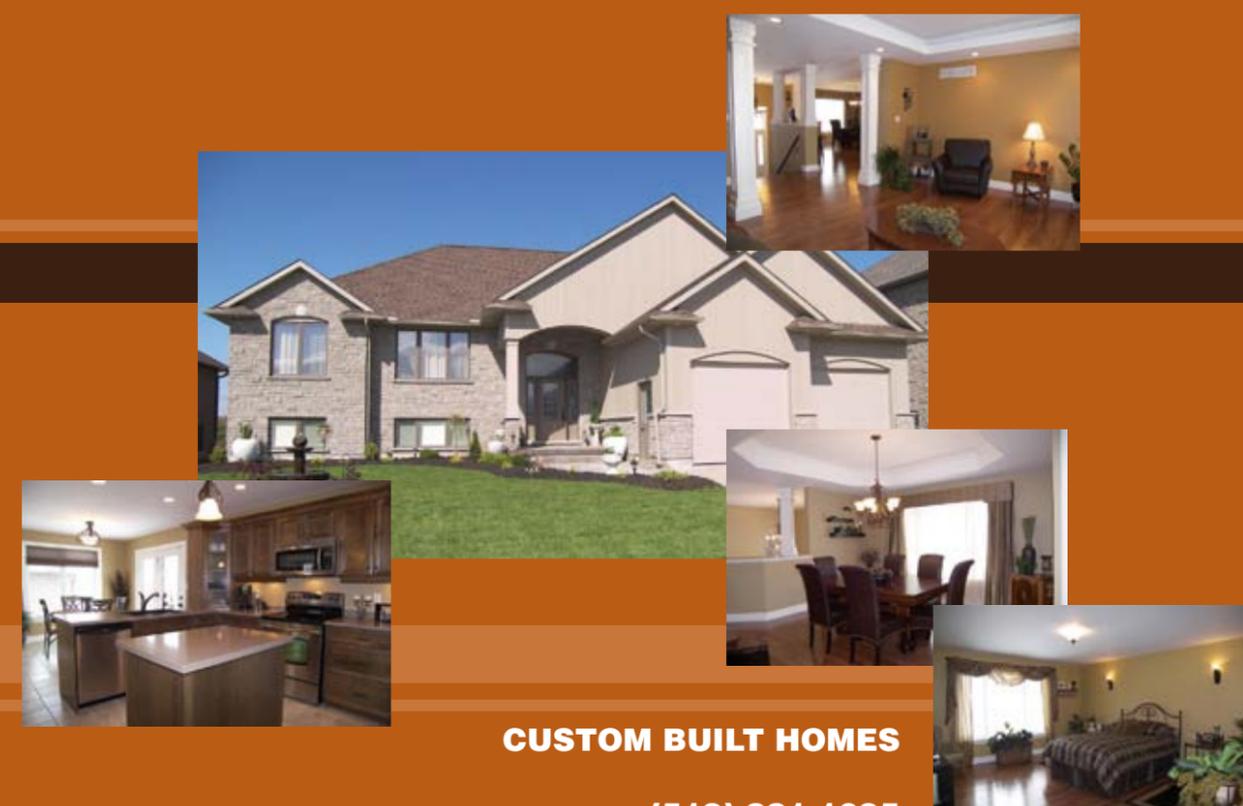


VEGGIE	DISTANCE BETWEEN ROWS (cm)	DISTANCE BETWEEN PLANTS (cm)	PLANTING DEPTH (cm)	EXTRA	# DAYS TO HARVEST
Tomatoes	60	45 - 60	1.2	Plant near carrots and onions, keep off soil	75 - 82
Potatoes	75 - 90	25 - 30	10	Source of vitamin C	80 - 100
Beans	60	5 - 8	4 - 5	Source of vitamins A and C	50 - 70
Peas	45 - 90	2.5 - 5	2.5 - 5	Source of vitamins A, C and iron	60 - 75
Cucumbers	120 - 150	30 - 60	1.5 - 2.5	Source of vitamins A and C	60 - 70
Lettuce	45 - 60	15 - 30	0.5 - 1	Partial shade, harvest in morning	40 - 45
Radishes	30	2.5	1.2	Second planting, source of folic acid	25 - 35
Carrots	45 - 60	3 - 5	1.5	Thin the crop, source of vitamin A	65 - 70
Onions	45 - 60	5 - 8	1.5 - 3	Lowers cholesterol and risk of heart disease	60 - 75
Beets	45 - 60	3 - 5	1.5	Thin the crop, source of folic acid	55 - 70
Squash	180 - 250	60 - 120	2-3	Source of potassium and Omega 3	95 - 110

* INFO PROVIDED BY ONTARIO MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS



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WATERFRONT \$549,900 Executive five bedroom home in very private setting with gorgeous lake view and spectacular sunsets – just reduced by \$150,000. Featuring hardwood floors throughout, gas fireplace in living room, wood fireplace in family room, gas stove in rec room with walkout to stone patio and the list goes on.



myhomes.360photo.ca/2341

LANDMARK HOME \$699,900 Lavishly restored, elegant Victorian 5 bedroom home built in 1875. Driveway adorned with stone walls, shuttered windows, French style verandah, 12' ceilings, graceful winding staircase, 4 fireplaces, beautiful architectural features & decorating throughout. Currently B & B.



myhomes.360photo.ca/4331

CANADIANA \$419,900 Replica of a "Traditional Ontario Home" by award winning craftsman has authentically captured the appearance and flavour of the time period giving you a panoramic view of the 5 acre countryside next to the Saugeen River. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, cherry floors, staircase with spandrel, cedar shake roof, copper eavestrough, wood fireplace, c/vac are a few of the features.



myhomes.360photo.ca/4316

LAKE VIEW \$444,900 A panoramic view of Lake Huron from front deck of this stunning custom built cedar log home. Some of the features include 3 bdrms, 2 baths, central vac, vaulted ceilings, wrap around decks, large rear deck with outdoor bar and hot tub, private membership to North Bruce Harbour Club allows you to keep your boat steps away.



myhomes.360photo.ca/3701

SPECTACULAR WATER VIEWS \$899,900 Designed with distinction, unlike any other. 4 levels of elegance, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 2 fireplaces, and we could go on and on about the exceptional features but this property is a must to see. The view of the Southampton Harbour, the Saugeen River and Lake Huron is phenomenal.



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LOCATION! LOCATION! \$459,900 Fantastic Southampton location within minutes to fine sand beach, tennis courts and shopping. Very private, beautifully landscaped grounds surround the 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath, unique home. Ideal for vacation, year round or comfy retirement. Truly one of a kind.



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WATERFRONT \$479,900 Very Charming 120' waterfront 4 bedroom built on a double lot with captivating panoramic view of Colpoys Bay. Features 1400 sq. ft on main level and 1000 sq. ft on lower level with walk out to breathtaking landscaped yard. Close to gorgeous golf club and within 1 hour to Blue Mountain ski hills.



myhomes.360photo.ca/3764

LAKEFRONT \$499,900 Maximize the view of Spectacular Sunsets from the spacious sunroom of this Executive LAKEFRONT cottage. Features 4 bedrooms, gas fireplace with stone mantle, all new windows, new garage, deep well jet pump well with new lines, shingles in 2006 and so much more.



myhomes.360photo.ca/4403

NEW LISTING \$699,900 Stunning views and world famous sunsets can be seen from this 3 bedroom 1040 sq. ft bungalow on a large treed lot. 95' of sand beach frontage. Full municipal services. Natural gas to lot line. You don't have to drive long distances for waterfront living.

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