



PHOTO COURTESY OF STOREOWNER

BACK TO BASICS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE FOX

THE PLACE: As you make your way down the driveway, toward the Ground Effects Landscapes garden centre in Hanover, a charming cabin will captivate your attention; **The Harvest Room.** The interior doesn't disappoint. Filled with beautiful home and gardening accessories, the store stocks items that complement the garden centre - offering inspiration for indoors and out. "The



addition of The Harvest Room brings us one step closer to fulfilling our dream of creating a 'destination' type of garden centre," says storeowner Donna Kraemer. "It's a place to reconnect with the outdoors." Kraemer first fell in love with The Harvest Room when it was located in Neustadt and owned by Basia Halik, who approached the Kraemers when she decided to sell. "We were very flattered that she would consider selling us her business," says Kraemer. "The timing was remarkable because we knew we wanted to add some sort of retail to our garden centre."

THE STYLE: A tasteful blend of old and new includes locally-crafted, handmade items, lovely pantry selections, antiques, candles, soaps, lavender, tableware, linens, gardening accessories and naturally-dried wreaths and arrangements. Kraemer describes the style as rustic, charming, cosy and traditional.

WHAT'S HOT: "I think people are starting to think about how to simplify their lives. They're looking for ways to get back to basics," says Kraemer. "The Harvest Room isn't about trends. It's more

about surrounding yourself with what you love and what makes you feel good - something I totally believe in."

SEASONAL: The Harvest Room offers custom-made wreaths crafted from all natural, locally harvested grains, as well as table centrepieces, outdoor containers and arrangements for every season. An expansion at Ground Effects will create space for workshops and special events in which customers may participate. Kraemer also plans to stock the little sheds at the garden centre with new and exciting items.

FAVOURITES: Wreaths, arrangements and dried grains are always a hit, as are luxurious, locally made soaps and lavender products, and quality glass items from Poland. "Customers love seeing vintage pieces that their parents or grandparents used to use; good old-fashioned items that were built to last and have so much character," Kraemer says.

WHERE: 341411 Conc. 2 NDR, Hanover
519.364.6555, www.theharvestroom.ca **OH**