

DON'T GET CAUGHT IN THE RAIN

Sunsetter retractable awning: \$1,000

Sunsetter Products has created retractable awnings to provide protection from the sun or a passing shower. The company says the awnings can reduce deck temperatures by up to 20 degrees and are 100 percent waterproof.



TREATMENTS

SAVE YOURSELF TIME

Spectrum's Premium Mulch with Weed Stop, \$4.99

Killing weeds, turning soil and mulching are all needed in order to create a beautiful and healthy flower bed. And with the introduction of Spectrum's Premium Mulch with weed stop, gardeners can turn three tedious tasks into two. Spectrum's Premium Mulch with Weed Stop is mulch with an added herbicide that controls weeds for up to four months after application. According to the company, gardeners can "spread it and forget it."



STOP POISON IVY BEFORE IT STARTS

Cortaid Poison Ivy Treatment Kit, \$35

Sometimes when in the garden, avoiding weeds such as poison ivy, oak or sumac can be difficult. You may not even know you were exposed to it until a painful, itchy rash appears. But now there is a product that can prevent a rash from developing. Launched by Cortaid, The Poison Ivy Treatment Kit contains Poison Ivy Care Removal Scrub, which boasts a patent-pending combination of ingredients that bind to the toxin found in poisonous plants and then is washed away. In a clinical study, it was found to be effective in nearly 94 percent of cases. If the rash has already developed, the kit also includes Poison Ivy Treatment Spray, which the company says will help relieve the pain and itching while healing the rash.



BOOKS

NEW BOOKS GO RIGHT TO THE GARDEN

Waterproof Books, \$9.95 each

Meredith Books' new Waterproof Books can go right from the shelf into the garden without worries that the pages will be water damaged or stained by dirt. The books are available on different subjects: Miracle Grow Perennials, Miracle Grow Roses and Miracle Grow Vegetables; Miracle Grow Water Gardens; Scotts Lawns; and Ortho Flower Problem Solver. According to the company, the books feature pages that are dirt-proof and tear-resistant, they lie flat and are pocketbook size.



GARDENING » TOOLS

New, unique gadgets for your yard

GARDEN GROOM COMES ACROSS THE POND

Max Garden Groom, \$199
Midi Garden Groom, \$149

The Garden Groom, the United Kingdom's most talked-about hedge trimmer, according to company officials, has launched in the United States. Created by inventor Graham Wilson in 2002, the trimmer boasts a concealed blade for added safety and a volume collector bag for larger hedges. In 2004, the product was awarded the "Best Gardening Product of 2004," by the Garden Industry Manufacturers Association. It is available in two sizes: the Max with a 12-inch cutting head, and the Midi with a nine-inch cutting blade. The clipper is available in catalogs such as Hamacher Schlemmer and Preferred Living. It is also available through the company's Web site, gardengroom.com.



Midi Garden Groom



STOP 'HOSING' AROUND

Hydro-Industries ReelSmart open reel, starts at \$40

Any gardener knows that one of the most annoying outdoor tasks is winding the hose up after usage. To save gardeners time, Hydro-Industries has created the ReelSmart open

reel, which uses water power to wind itself up automatically after you are finished with it. It can be mounted on the floor or wall and is billed by the company as lightweight, efficient and affordable. The ReelSmart is available in a variety of sizes from 75 feet to 150 feet.

REJUVENATE YOUR DECK WITHOUT BREAKING THE BANK

Eco Decking California Eco Decking tiles, \$7.99 per square foot of tile

If your deck is showing its age, but you don't have the money or time to replace it, Eco Woods California offers a cheaper, less time-consuming alternative with the launch of its new Eco Decking Tiles. The tiles, which can be placed directly on top of the deck, snap and lock together and require no nails, adhesive or finish. The process takes only a couple of hours, and the wood tiles are durable and can be adapted for any shape of deck, according to the company.

RELIEF AT HAND FOR ALLERGY SUFFERERS

SunLawn's Electric Push Mower, \$379
SunLawn's MM-1 Reel-Style Push Mowers, \$179

Designed to reduce grass allergy reactions while mowing your lawn, SunLawn's new Rechargeable EM-1 Electric Push And MM-1 Reel-Style Push Mowers are now available at hardware stores such as Ace Hardware and True Value. According to the company, its custom-designed blades reduce spore count, resulting in less allergy-causing airborne particles. To further alleviate allergy symptoms, the mower mulches the grass into such small pieces that when left on the lawn the clippings recycle into the soil as organic fertilizer, eliminating the task of picking up the clippings.

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