

REAL PLUMBERS®

AIR CONDITIONING

SERVICE CONTRACTS

REPAIRS - INSTALLATIONS

Pre-Season System Inspection & Start Up

High Efficiency Systems
Rebates - Energy Tax Credits

301-567-2001

www.realplumbers.net

REAL PLUMBERS®

HEATING- COOLING- PLUMBING

**BOILERS,
FURNACES, A/C OR
HEAT PUMPS**

*Equipment Furnished and Installed

\$100.00 OFF

**PRE-SEASON
TUNE UP
INSPECTION**

*Most HVAC Systems

\$89.95

**HOT WATER
HEATERS**

*All Materials Furnished and Installed

\$25.00 OFF

10% OFF

**All Labor with
this Coupon**

*Not Applicable with Other Coupons
or Promotions

WARNER T/A REAL PLUMBERS®
Super Service Inc.

WSSC Lic. #950 DC #1084 VA #2706 DC HVAC #738 MD HVAC #6846

The Capitol Hill
Garden Club
presents



Dear Garden
Problem Lady,

On early morning walks, I go by a tree box with a sickly tree in it. Someone has laid plastic sheeting over the whole area and then covered the plastic with mulch. Isn't it killing the tree?

Oh, yes, it is. Plastic sheeting around a tree stops water from penetrating into the soil – and is actually forbidden by DC law. Even perforated “weed barrier cloth” severely limits water access to tree roots because the tiny perforations get clogged with silt. Tree roots need water and air. Whoever laid down that sheeting probably thought it would kill weeds and help the tree.

My azaleas are popping, but as soon as the blossoms fade, I need to prune them back severely – they have grown much too wide. When is the best time to prune azaleas?

You are correct – just after they bloom.

Do camellias depend on pollination for next year's flowers?

Yes. Books have been written about humans hybridizing camellias (creating desired characteristics by pollinating camellias by hand). However, birds and bees definitely do it.

We have a steep slope, covered with English ivy – which, we well know, is an invasive that does not support insect or bird life. We plan to remove it. What is an attractive native groundcover to use as an alternative?

Removing English ivy is no picnic. Use tools with colored handles so you can find them. Some people find that ivy causes rashes, so wear gloves, long pants and long sleeves. Re-

SAVE THE DATE

The William E. Doar, Jr. Educational Foundation
invites you to its

1st Annual Gala: Graduating to New Heights

Saturday, May 8, 2010 @ 6:30 p.m. • Almas Shriners • 1315 K Street NW

Cocktail Reception • Faculty & Student Performance
Special Guest Performance by Pepe Gonzalez and Robert Sykes

\$150 per ticket

For tickets or sponsorship: Gala@wedjschool.us or (202)719-8065.

The William E. Doar Jr.
Public Charter School
PERFORMING ARTS

Graduating to New Heights celebrates the WEDJ Public Charter School for the Performing Arts' first graduating senior class through theater, song, and dance. Your contribution to this year's gala will support production costs for WEDJ's ten student shows, so our students continue to receive an education enriched by the arts. We hope to see you at the gala!

move all the roots. You may find holes in the ground beneath – they are probably rat burrows if you live on Capitol Hill! For the replacement planting, you might try a pretty but very tough native grass called Pennsylvania Sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*). With a spreading habit, this makes an excellent shade groundcover. A fine texture and fountaining habit give it a soft appearance. If your slope is sunny, there are other native grasses, such as broom sedge, that also look beautiful.

*When we moved to Capitol Hill, I had a mystery perennial that had not bloomed by the end of August, so I reluctantly removed it. When later, the previous owner came by – who had forgotten to mention that this was his *Caryopteris* – I began to wonder what I have missed. What is *Caryopteris*?*

Caryopteris clandonensis is a tall, bushy perennial with that rare beautiful thing in autumn, a blue flower. Best in a garden with some space, it appears as a kind of blue haze, 4 feet high. “Longwood blue” aka “blue-beard” is a popular variety. A more compact variety is called “Dark Knight” and grows to 4 feet wide and fairly tall.

Feeling beset by gardening problems? Send them to the Problem Lady c/o Capitol Hill Garden Club at andrew@hillrag.com. Your problems might even prove instructive to others, and help them feel superior to you. Complete anonymity is assured. The next regular meeting of the Capitol Hill Garden Club is on Sept. 14. Membership details: 202-543-7539. ★



REAL PLUMBERS®

HEAT PUMPS-GAS FURNACES-BOILERS

SERVICE CONTRACTS - REPAIRS - INSTALLATIONS

Pre-Season System Inspection & Start Up

High Efficiency Systems - Rebates - Energy Tax Credits

REAL PLUMBERS®

HEATING - COOLING - PLUMBING

301-567-2001

www.realplumbers.net

<p style="font-size: small;">BOILERS, FURNACES, A/C OR HEAT PUMPS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*Equipment Furnished and Installed</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">\$100.00 OFF</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">PRE-SEASON TUNE UP INSPECTION</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*Most HVAC Systems</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">\$89.95</p>	<p style="font-size: small;">HOT WATER HEATERS</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">*All Materials Furnished and Installed</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">\$25.00 OFF</p>	<p style="color: red; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">10% OFF</p> <p style="color: red; font-weight: bold;">PLUMBING Labor</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">with this coupon</p>
--	--	--	--

WARNER TIA REAL PLUMBERS®
Super Service Inc.

WSSC Lic. #950-DC #1084-VA #2706-DC HVAC #738-MD HVAC #6848

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD MECHANIC



Pat Jones, ASE Certified
Master Automobile Technician


Providing the
Hill's Finest
Repair Services
Since 1916



COMPLETE FOREIGN &
AMERICAN CAR REPAIR

645 Maryland Avenue, NE
202.547.4200 • capitolhillgarage.com

The only indoor golf simulator in the District.
Lessons by a PGA Professional.



CAPITOL
Hill Golf

Conveniently located on Capitol Hill.
Golf lessons rain or shine.
By Appointment Only

Contact Bryan Huus (202)577-7310
email: bryan@capitolhillgolf.com
www.capitolhillgolf.com

Handyman Masters

20 years experience working in fine homes like yours

Bathrooms • Kitchens • Masonry • Handyman

"I have worked with Masters over the years
and have been extremely happy with the workmanship.
They are very professional". - Georgetown Resident



202.528.0621

HandymanMastersllc.com

Licensed • Bonded • Insured

24-HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE



- ★ New Roofs ★ Preventive Maintenance
- ★ Repairs ★ Re-roofing ★ Fascia/Soffits
- ★ Roof Coating ★ Chimney Repairs
- ★ Skylights ★ Gutters/Downspouts
- ★ Rubber ★ Metal ★ Copper
- ★ Shingles ★ Slates ★ Shakes

NO JOB TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL

FREE ESTIMATES

"40 YEARS EXPERIENCE"

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

202 ★ 271 ★ 4377

LICENSED ★ BONDED ★ INSURED