



# OGDEN'S DESIGN & PLANTINGS, INC.

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## BEAUTIFUL BARK

At this time of year it can seem like there is very little interest in the garden, but if you look carefully, leaves, fruit, buds and bark can provide winter appeal.

creases, especially if lower limbs are removed, exposing the trunk to more light. When *Stewartia*'s bark peels, it leaves a lovely mottled pattern of reddish-brown or gray-green depending on the variety.

### Design & Installation:

- Natural Gardens
- Japanese Gardens
- Bed Maintenance
- Therapeutic Gardens
- Paths & Patios
- Stone & Brickwork
- Specialty Gardens
- Seasonal Color & Interest

### April To-Do List:

- Plant herbaceous perennials, roses, trees and shrubs
- Prepare soil in vegetable and annual beds
- Schedule Spring clean-up
- Assess winter plant damage
- Divide perennials
- Initiate outdoor masonry projects
- Start up automated irrigation programs

### Ogdenwords:

**Exfoliate** - To peel off in thin layers or shreds.

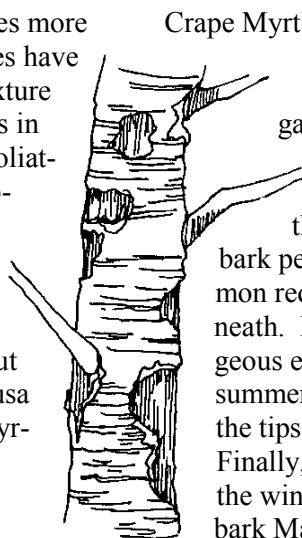
**Mottle** - Mark with spots or streaks of different colors or shades.

**Panicle** - a loose branching pyramid-shaped cluster of flowers.

Bark especially, is a wonderful asset to the winter landscape. It becomes more vivid and noticeable after leaves have fallen, adding sculpture and texture to the bare garden. Bark comes in different colors and can be exfoliating, even having a quilt-like appearance.

There are many trees with fabulous-looking bark. Birch is probably the best known. But others to consider include: Kousa Dogwood, *Stewartia*, Crape Myrtle and Paperbark Maple.

If you're set on birch, River Birch (*Betula nigra*) is a variety that can be successfully grown on Long Island. Not as white as its northern relative, light reddish-brown cinnamon bark peels back to reveal shades ranging from tan to salmon-pink underneath. Kousa Dogwood's (*Cornus kousa*) mottled appearance qualifies this tree for four seasons of interest. Its light brown-gray trunk is interspersed with blotches of yellow-beige and dark gray-white colors. As it ages the mottling in-



Crape Myrtle or *Lagerstroemia*, our plant pick of the month, known mostly in southern gardens, can be grown on Long Island. Natchez Crape Myrtle is perhaps the best variety. It's beige bark peels back to expose cinnamon reddish-brown colors underneath. In addition to having gorgeous exfoliating bark, in late summer large colorful panicles fill the tips of every branch. Finally, often called the queen of the winter landscape, the Paperbark Maple (*Acer griseum*), a small

understory tree, is ideal planted near a patio or entrance door, where you can enjoy its fabulous exfoliating cinnamon-brown bark year-round.

Bark, a great focal point for the winter landscape, really comes into its own when the rest of the garden is bare and stark. If you need advice on choosing a plant to enhance your garden, don't hesitate to call us.

### Hands-On Pruning Workshop

Saturday, April 11, 2015 at 10:00am

Find out what and how to prune in springtime with the experts!

Space is limited, call or email to reserve your spot!  
(631) 473-5064 or public@ogdens.com



Jump Start the Year with Ogden's  
CALL (631) 473-5064