

From Amy Howansky of *Backyard Solutions*TM

Do you need help figuring out which plants to buy for your landscape, and where to put them? Maybe you have noticed a potential disease or pest problem with one of your trees. Perhaps you just want to attend a class to learn how to prune your own shrubs. Amy Howansky, of *Backyard Solutions*TM, is the person to call.

Amy graduated from Cornell University where she studied horticulture, landscape architecture, and floral design. Formerly, she was the coordinator of the Master Gardener Program of Albany County's Cornell Cooperative Extension. She is also a Certified Nursery Professional, so she knows how to select, install, and maintain a variety of trees and shrubs. Since the field of horticulture is always changing, Amy continues to educate herself so that she remains current about new plants available on the market, and new pests and diseases that may be affecting your landscape.

With a teaching certificate from SUNY, Amy is also a dynamic speaker. She has presented seminars about many horticulture topics including: landscape design theory, pruning techniques, improving soils, composting, and installing trees and shrubs. To spread her knowledge of horticulture, Amy is currently working on a series of books and videos that focus on the difficulties we face in our landscapes.

Recently, Amy has been able to use her 23 years of experience to help municipalities make improvements to their public green spaces. She toured town parks, and then put together proposal packets for the town boards and beautification committees.

In her spare time Amy likes to collect dwarf conifers, visit botanical gardens, and hike in the Adirondacks. She lives in Niskayuna, New York, with her husband, and four cats.

Call Amy at *Backyard Solutions*TM (518-374-6525) for the following services:

- Plant problem diagnosis
- Pest and disease identification
- Landscape design
- Site analysis
- Soil testing
- Specialty pruning
- Lectures and workshops on horticulture topics