

Best bets on the Net

■ Gardening gurus: Some people look forward to spring. savoring the chance to transform their winter-browned yards into fragrant green oases. Others just dread having to start mowing the grass again. Green thumb or not, you can get some tips on sprucing up your lawn and garden at Garden Escape. Users can pose horticultural questions to the Garden Doctor, design their own gardens using the site's Garden Planner and buy seeds, plants and tools online. Registration is required, but membership is free.

http://www.garden.com

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■ Foreign affairs: C-SPAN junkies and anyone interested in U.S. foreign policy will find a treasure chest of Web links at the U.S. Diplomatic History Resources Index. This site, developed by Jacksonville native Nick Sarantakes, assistant professor of history at Texas A&M, is a clearinghouse of online information about foreign policy and its history. http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/coas/history/sarantakes/

stuff.html