

# Farm Life

WITH MARYJANE



Here is where I'll share my ideas, gardening tips, crafting, sewing, carpentry, home decorating, entertaining ideas, and simple solutions for everyday organic. The inspiration for this magazine was born when a woman told me, "I wish I could have your life!" I thought, "Why not?"



## Simple Solutions

for everyday ORGANIC™

### MaryJane's

#### 2 Light Up the Night

Luxurious night lighting transforms an ordinary campsite into a glowing glampsite fit for fairies and farmgirls alike. Craft your very own solar Mason-jar lights that will lend a gossamer glimmer to tree limbs, table tops, tents, and teardrops. Follow the easy tutorial at [GardenTherapy.ca/mason-jar-solar-lights](http://GardenTherapy.ca/mason-jar-solar-lights), and then place your jars in the sun for four to eight hours before nightfall. They'll light up automatically at dusk, adding elegance to even the most rugged surroundings.

#### 3 Take 'n' Bake

Just because you're out in the wild doesn't mean you have to eat like a cowboy! Forget frying fritters over a fire and break out your own oven instead. The Coleman Outdoor Portable Oven and Stove ([REI.com](http://REI.com)) makes it easy to whip up a sensational shepherd's pie, pizza, or peach cobbler. Touted as two full-size appliances in one, this compact cooking combo delivers go-anywhere culinary versatility. It can be fueled by a small propane cylinder or adapted to use a larger tank for extended cooking times.

#### 4 Be a Bombshell

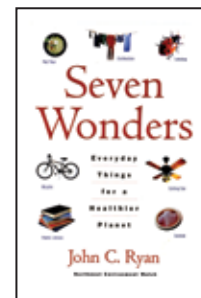
Japanese folding screens were all the rage in the Golden Age of Hollywood. Many a movie star slipped coyly behind pleated panels, draping elegant ensembles over the top as she changed. Imagine how decadent it would feel to unfold a screen beside your teardrop and savor a pinch of privacy in the open air. I'm smitten with the fabulous selection of folding screens at [RoomDividerStore.com](http://RoomDividerStore.com). But, what to choose ... the marvelous Mannequin & Singer Divider? The Plum Blossom Shoji Screen?

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## A Few Tips for a Simple Life

by Michael Guilfoil, *The Spokesman-Review*

Organic farmer MaryJane Butters long ago embraced Thoreau's dictum to "simplify, simplify." As a Forest Service ranger in the 1970s, she spent two summers roaming Utah's Uinta Mountains with her home on her back. Later, she maintained the most remote wilderness ranger station in the Lower 48. Today, Butters and her family live eight miles outside Moscow, Idaho, on their farm, headquarters of her mail-order dry-foods business. But even e-commerce hasn't tempered Butters' enthusiasm for simplicity.



In December 1999, a newspaper reporter from Washington called. He was writing a review of the book *Seven Wonders: Everyday Things for a Healthier Planet* by John C. Ryan. Michael Guilfoil of *The Spokesman-Review* newspaper asked me if I had my own "seven wonders." The story that ensued was headlined

"Simple Solutions." Here, then, is the continuation of that story.

Each issue of *MaryJanesFarm* will feature in detail new solutions, and will give you all the information you need to make them your own.

Solutions from previous issues are available in the magazine section of my website: [www.maryjanesfarm.org/SimpleSolutions](http://www.maryjanesfarm.org/SimpleSolutions).

## 7 ways to glam up your glampsite

Late summer is the most sublime time to get your glamp on. The air is sweet with ripening fruit, and the nights are warm. What are you waiting for? Hit the road ... in rhinestones. Head for the hills ... in heels. Don't be shy about glamping up your campsite. This trip is for the girls.

### Plant a Pink Flamingo

Stake your claim with classic kitsch: a pink flamingo yard ornament! I found my garden-tool flamingo (left) at a craft sale, but [BellaSoleil.com](http://BellaSoleil.com) also has a glamorous gal that's guaranteed to gussy up your glampsite and kindle conversation ... heck, you might be tempted to buy a whole flock!

## seven wonders

#### 5 Scent Your Glampfire

Why settle for twigs or cardboard kindling when you're lighting a campfire? Ignite a glampfire using fragrant herbs and spices. Dried sage, lavender, rosemary, cinnamon sticks, whole nutmeg, and even pinecones will spark and scent the flaming centerpiece of your glampsite. Here's how: Arrange a handful of dried goodies in the center of a folded sheet of newspaper. Roll it up, twist each end, and secure with raffia or cotton twine. Nestle four or five bundles under your logs, leaving a few ends sticking out for easy lighting.

#### 6 Flaunt Your Flowers

Few decorations doll up a glampsite as nicely as nature's own beautiful bouquets, and one of the finest ways I've found to flaunt freshly picked flowers is in garden stake vases. Ring your site in summer splendor by tethering upcycled glass bottles to rustic tree branch stakes, then fill with water and flowers. For detailed instructions, visit [aSubtleRevelry.com/garden-flower-stake-tutorial](http://aSubtleRevelry.com/garden-flower-stake-tutorial).

#### 7 Set the Mood

Music can turn back the clock to a time when divas did things their way, and the Audio Technica AT-LP60 Portable Turntable will rev up the vintage va-va-voom of your glampsite. Spin a vinyl copy of Porgy & Bess, and you'll be singing "Summertime" as you watch the sun set. Find turntables and over 1 million new and used LPs (yep, they still make 'em!) at [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com).