

At Home on Nantucket

rose hips are trimmed off.

Other plants Godfrey favors instead of grass are Santolina, also called lavender cotton, that has silver or green foliage and yellow flowers and grows to two feet; all varieties of lavender with its sweet smell and purple flowers and low-growing, spreading Juniper, an evergreen available in several varieties. The low evergreen Bearberry is native to Nantucket, likes dry, sandy soil and has shiny round leaves and red berries. St. John's Wort will reach two feet, has yellow flowers and becomes dense.

"I've planted a lot of places with masses of it," said Godfrey, who added that he likes to plant Spirea, particularly "Pink Princess," in with

the St. John's Wort. He is also fond of ornamental grasses. "There are so many it's hard to give a number. Some have different color foliage, different plume times and different plumes in pink, purple, brown, black and white and can be mixed."

Godfrey said the first consideration for alternatives to grass is the fact that many plant species do not require as much water as a lawn and do not need chemical treatments to be disease and weed-free.

"I certainly lean in that direction. A lawn is a good recreational area but the majority of the yard can be naturalized and more interesting to look at than just an open, green lawn. I think that is far more attractive and interesting," he said. ■



Summer Sweet Hummingbird



Barberry



Reclaim

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