

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHY?

by Pat Chellman

Did you ever wonder why . . .

- . . . we take oil from the earth to make plastic trash bags?
- . . . we dig vast amounts of land to obtain phosphates for fertilizer?
- . . . we make hills out of flatlands with our trash?
- . . . we cut down thousands of trees to make mulch?
- . . . then buy fertilizers to spread on the ground
- . . . to make the grass grow
- . . . so we can cut it (and remove natural nitrogen)
- . . . to put in plastic bags
- . . . to bury in the ground?
- . . . then spend hours raking leaves
- . . . to put in plastic bags
- . . . to bury in the ground?
- . . . then buy mulch in plastic bags
- . . . to put where we rake the leaves?
 - . . . when we could have used the leaves and clippings
 - . . . to make compost
 - . . . to naturally enrich our soils
 - . . . and have free mulch?

Think about recycling. Cut down on landfills. Cut waste disposal costs. Save our cypress trees and eliminate south Florida's pest tree by using melaleuca mulch.

Think about our environment. Perfect lawns may not fit into our future!

(Pat Chellman is president of Suncoast Chapter.)