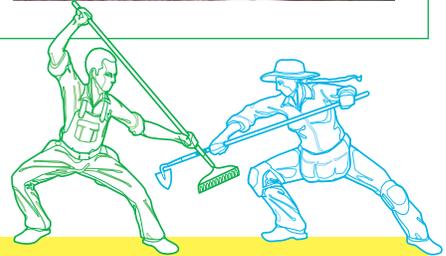




# EAST: CAMPIFY THE COURTYARD

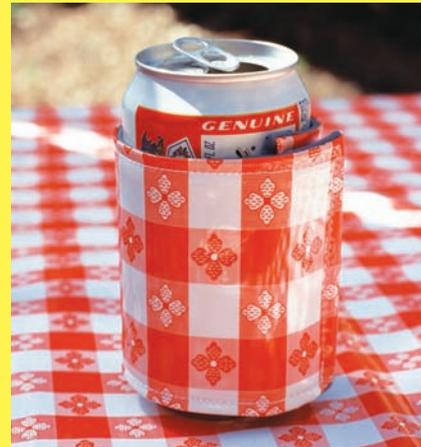
**Gardeners:** Derek Fagerstrom and Lauren Smith

The mercury's rising and you're itching to escape the urban grid. Prospect Park is close enough, but you can't pitch your tent there. The Catskills require a ride. What's a would-be weekend warrior to do? Haul in some foresty mulch, fire up a BBQ pit, and bust out the guitar. You're going camping.



**Bugger Off Candles** (paraffin wax \$2.50/block; candle wick \$2; pine, cedar, or "forest medley" oil \$4)  
Cut wax into cubes and fill an aluminum can. Put the can in a pot of water on medium heat. As soon as the wax melts, remove the can. Cut wicks to appropriate lengths and "prime" by dipping into melted wax. Let dry. Add 20 to 30 drops of scented oil to the wax and stir. Insert wick. To prevent it from tipping into the melted wax as it hardens, insert the top of the wick between a pair of unseparated wooden chopsticks and balance the sticks over the top of the can.

**Tablecloth and Beer Cozies** (48" wide vinyl \$3/yard; 48" wide fleece \$4/yard)  
Cut pieces of gingham vinyl and fleece to same size (4' x 6'), and pin together with wrong sides facing out. Stitch around three sides, trim corners, and turn right side out. Fold under the hem on the open side and topstitch around all four sides, closing the open end as you go. Use any remaining fabric to make beer cozies (same method, only smaller). Make each wide enough so the ends overlap by 1" when wrapped around a can. Attach adhesive-backed Velcro to each end to close.



**Wax Mosaic** (\$54)  
Smash tiles into small pieces. Cut scrap plywood to the length and width of a small table, sand it down, and sketch your design on one side. Spread white glue on the wood surface one section at a time. Apply the tiles, leaving room for grout. Let the glue dry for 24 hours. Secure the lattice strips to the edges of the table with finishing nails. Attach pre-made wooden table legs. Tape off the lattice to prevent the grout from sticking to the wood. Pour the grout on the tiled surface and spread evenly using a wooden stick and your gloved hands. Wipe off excess with a damp sponge until the tiles are clean. Let it dry overnight.

Magazine production artist Derek Fagerstrom and Designer Lauren Smith are founders of The Curiosity Guild ([www.curiosityguild.com](http://www.curiosityguild.com)) a collective that meets once a month to teach each other new things.