

# THE FRONT YARD NURSERY NEWSLETTER

## A PUBLICATION FOR HARD PAN GARDENERS

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# WINTER 2011/2012



**GARDEN QUOTE:** "I'm not really a career person. I'm a gardener, basically."—George Harrison

## WINTER GARDEN CALENDAR

### December

- Need gift ideas? Japanese Maples, Dogwoods, garden ornaments, a nice pair of pruning shears with holster, seed packets, discount hat (see p. 6), gift cards...
- Apply second dormant spray on fruit trees. See us for handouts and supplies.
- Hoe and pull winter weeds. Apply pre-emergent herbicides to prevent weeds. See us for choices.
- Remove foil from gift plants to prevent root rot.
- Move live Christmas trees indoors to decorate. Do not leave inside for more than 10 days. See us for a care handout.
- Plant winter annuals (primrose, pansies, violas, ornamental kale & cabbage, etc.).
- Rake up leaves to prevent spread of disease and over-wintering insects.
- To save tender plants from sudden freeze, turn on sprinklers or mist them lightly before they thaw (cold water adds heat). Other methods include Cloud Cover spray, or covering the plants with row cover (sold at the nursery). Also try wrapping a small string of Christmas tree lights (the warm kind) on the plant.
- Apply iron to yellowing Gardenias, Azaleas, other acid-loving plants, and Citrus. See us for synthetic or organic choices.
- Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day. Enjoy your holiday!



### January

- Closed New Year's Day. Happy New Year!
- Move living Christmas trees outdoors. Take them from house to patio to planting site gradually, allowing them to re-acclimate to the cold.

- Prop discarded cut Christmas trees near a bird feeder as a staging area for small birds.
- Shop for bareroot fruit and shade trees, berries, vegetables, and ornamentals. See us for a complete list or find it on our website.
- Prune fruit trees as needed. After pruning, clean up old leaves and debris to prevent spread of disease. Do not prune spring blooming shrubs until after they bloom.
- Buy vegetable and flower seeds at the nursery for your spring garden. Sow indoors for an early start.
- Apply 2<sup>nd</sup> dormant spray to fruit trees if you missed December.
- **Winter Fruit Tree & Grape Pruning and Care Clinic** (FREE) at 10:00 am on the following Saturdays and Mondays: Jan. 14th & 16th, 21st & 23rd, 28th & 30th, and Feb. 4th & 6th.



### February

- Apply third and final dormant spray on fruit trees (just before bud break) – this is the most important of the three sprays.
- Fertilize annuals and perennials with a low nitrogen starter fertilizer or rose & flower food.
- Prune roses and fruit trees as needed.
- Apply iron to yellowing Gardenias, Azaleas, other acid-loving plants, and Citrus.
- Spread wood ashes lightly around lilacs to benefit growth and aid blooming.
- Sow seeds indoors for spring planting later on.
- Start roses on a fungus prevention spray schedule. We have synthetic and organic options. Come by the Nursery and ask for our care calendar and products.
- **Rose Pruning and Care Clinic** (FREE) at 10:00 am & 2:00 pm on the following dates: Sat, Feb. 11th, and Mon, Feb. 13th.

