

December 21, 2017

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!

Fresh Cut Christmas Trees:

- Avoid buying a Norway or Blue Spruce as an indoor cut Christmas tree because they tend to dry out fast
- Never allow your cut Christmas tree to run out of water
- If your cut Christmas tree is dropping an excessive amount of needles, it may be dead and is a fire hazard.

Live Christmas Tree:

- Remember that live balled and burlaped Christmas trees stay indoor, no longer than 5-7 days, depending on the indoor temperature.

Lawn:

- Do not walk on frozen grass because you will end up with dead spots where you had walked. Walking on frozen grass kills the grass blade.

Bulbs:

- Paper white narcissus that are finished blooming can be disposed of in the trash. They will not be able to re-bloom next year if saved.
- Plant unplanted flower bulbs outdoors as soon as possible.
- Amaryllis bulbs can still be potted or obtained from your local garden shops. They can be planted in an indoor pot (the pot should be slightly bigger than the bulb), and it will bloom in four to six weeks. Only water with **luke warm** water until the flower stock is 4-6" tall.
- Pansies can still be planted in mild climate areas for winter blooming.

Indoor Plants:

- Continue to use *Seamate* every time you water your house plants, poinsettias, Christmas cactus, Norfolk Island pine, and orchids
- Control Mealybugs, scale, and aphids with [Bonide houseplant insect control](#).
- Control mites with [Summit Year-Round Spray Oil](#)
- Control fungus gnats with Summit mosquito bits.
- Always read labeled instructions

The Norfolk Island pine (a tropical evergreen) must be kept in a cool and well lit place. Below 60 degrees at night. Water this indoor pine with 1/2 TBS of [seamate](#) in 1 qt of water every time you water this pine. Let the soil get dry in between waterings.

The Xmas cactus is treated the same as the Norfolk pine.

When you go out of town, use the product [Vacation](#) to help protect your houseplant from drying out.

Snow:

- Spray [snow casters](#), snow shovels, discharge chutes of snow blowers, and impellers of snowblowers with *Silicone Spray* so that the snow will slide off during its use.
- View the [snow caster](#). Snow is on the way.

Fruit Trees

Fruit trees can be pruned in the winter, when the weather permits. After pruning the fruit trees, make an application of [Monterey Liqi-cop](#). Make the Monterey Liqi-cop application, when there is no rain or frost in the forecast, for the day of application. When you grow Japanese Lace leaf maples, Lilac , or dogwoods, also treat these trees with Monterey Liqi-cop.

Flower Bulbs

Paperwhite daffodils can still be planted indoors. They will bloom within 10 days of planting.

Remove spent Amaryllis flowers and cut the Amaryllis flower stem, when all of the flowers on that stem have bloomed out.

When the soil is not frozen the beds can be prepped for spring planting. Add sharp sand or compost to improve the soil. Do not over use the compost, if you have added compost in the previous years. A high percentage of compost in the vegetable garden causes the tomatoes to not produce large tomatoes, and it causes root crops to not yield a good crop. Also check the Ph with a [PH tester](#).

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