

Live Christmas Tree:

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

Snow:

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

Roses:

- Mound soil or old mulch around rose stems or canes to a depth of 8" to help prevent heavy frost from killing your roses

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
- 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
- Any unplanted flower bulbs that have not been planted should be planted in an outdoor garden as soon as possible.
- Tulips can be planted outside in planters or pots; other flower bulbs need to be planted in the ground.

Trees:

- Do not prune crepe myrtles until early spring.

Lawn:

- Make sure the pH of your lawn is 6.2-6.7. If you have not checked your lawn's pH yet, Winter is the ideal time to do so. Use an [electronic pH tester](#) to test your lawn's pH. Make sure you check on a day that the soil is not frozen and do not walk on frozen lawns.

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Southern Lawns:

On St Augustine and Centipede grass, spur weed can be controlled with an application of [Atrazene](#) in December.. Do not use Atrazene on norther lawns. Always read labels for directions on use.

Ponds

Install your [pond deicer](#) in your koi or goldfish pond now if you have not done this already. It will get much colder.

Flower and Vegetable beds

When the soil is not frozen the beds can be prepped for spring planting by adding 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](#).

Houseplants:

- Continue feeding your indoor plants with *Seamate*, especially holiday plants such as Christmas cactus, cyclamen, poinsettias, and orchids.
- Do not over water orchids. Keep orchids on the dry side. Use a [moisture meter](#) to measure the moisture of the soil deeper in the pot. Most orchids are killed by over watering. When an orchid is finished blooming, do not remove the entire flower stem. Cut the flower stem right below the last spent flower. New flower spikes will develop on the remaining flower stem.
- Amaryllis' flowers that are spent should be cut off. When all the flowers on the stalk are finished, remove the entire stem. A second or third stem should produce more flowers, depending on the bulb (a 3 year-old large bulb will likely have more flower stems). Do not cut the amaryllis leaves. Do not over water the amaryllis. Feed with [Seamate](#) with every watering.