

Lawn & Garden JANUARY To Do List



MAINTAIN

- Address drainage problems for soft ground; have soil tested; and then till workable soil and work in amendments.
- Don't use salt on frozen driveways and sidewalks. Instead, use sand, organic kitty litter or sawdust.
- Clean, oil and repair garden tools, and take your lawn mower in for maintenance.

PERENNIALS AND BULBS

- Protect evergreen perennials from freeze damage.
- Check stored tender bulbs every couple of weeks; discard rotten ones. If withered, mist the packing medium lightly with water.
- Bring chilled bulbs out for forcing indoors; plant bulbs that don't require chilling, such as paper-white narcissus.
- Sow seeds in indoor flats for spring planting. Replace and add mulch to plants uprooted by frost heaving. Use recycled Christmas boughs as extra mulch.
- Zones 7 and warmer can plant summer and fall-flowering bulbs.

TREES AND SHRUBS

- In warm climates, cover tender trees and shrubs with burlap to protect them from frosts.
- Prune dormant trees and shrubs, and winter-flowering shrubs just after they bloom.
- Bring spring-flowering branches indoors for forcing; prune spring-flowering shrubs after they've bloomed.
- Apply anti-desiccants to newly planted evergreens.
- Zones 7 and warmer can plant roses; warmer zones can plant bare-root, balled-and-burlapped, and container-grown trees and shrubs.

ANNUALS AND CONTAINERS

- Protect tender plants from freezing temperatures and continue watering containers.
- Feed winter-blooming pansies with a bloom-boosting fertilizer.
- Frost-free zones (11 and warmer) can plant spring annuals outdoors; start seeds indoors for summer annuals.

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