



in the  
Garden

DECEMBER  
EDITION

GARDENING

- Stretch your hoses out with both ends open, drain completely and put them away so they don't freeze and burst.
- Cover and protect outdoor faucets to prevent freezing. Drain and shut down your irrigation system.
- Water recently planted trees and shrubs during extended dry spells throughout winter. Remember to water plants growing beneath large evergreens or under the eaves of the house.
- Explore your yard for holiday decorations. Cuttings of various evergreens, Nandina and Magnolia leaves, make great additions to your outside containers or indoor arrangements
- Take cuttings of Rhododendrons, Azaleas and other evergreen shrubs this month. Take your cutting from new tip growth and keep it in bright light, at about 70 degrees F.
- Allow your indoor potted bulbs, such as hyacinths, daffodils or tulips, planted in September for winter forcing, to remain moist and in the dark until they establish their root systems

HOUSEPLANTS

- Sponge-clean glossy-leaved house plants such as Philodendrons, Rubber plants and Palms periodically with room temperature water.
- Clean dust away from fuzzy, textured, or other non-glossy type leaves and spray lightly with room temperature water. Be sure that the foliage is allowed to dry completely.
- Provide your house plants with extra humidity by grouping plants together or by setting the pots on leak-proof trays filled with moistened pebbles.
- Bring last year's Poinsettias and Christmas Cactus back into the living room and into the light after keeping them in 14 hours of darkness since September.

LAWN CARE

- Fertilize your fescue lawn with a product high in Nitrogen.
- December is a good month to apply lime to your warm season lawn.
- Atrazine application will kill and control weeds in your centipede lawn.