



in the
Garden

**JANUARY
EDITION**

GARDENING

- Walk through your lawn and gardens and observe the "bones" of the landscape.
- Plant trees, shrubs and perennials throughout the "dormant season," when there's cooler weather.
- Choose colorful, evergreen plants like coral bells, camellias, arborvitae, yucca, autumn ferns and hellebores.
- Mulch or lay pine straw on your beds. Mulching now protects plants from our colder months AND allows easy access to all parts of your garden.
- Establish rose beds now for planting later by working the soil thoroughly, spreading 2-4 inches of Leafgro and adding limestone or sulfur to create the optimal soil pH between 5.5 and 7.0.
- Prune broken limbs now by cutting within 1/4 inch above a live bud or just outside the branch collar.
- Wait to prune spring-flowering plants.
- Cut back ornamental grasses like lirioppe and any leftover perennial foliage by late January before the new growth starts to emerge.
- Cut sedum to the ground.
- Shape and/or prune evergreens.
- Later this month, if the ground is workable, direct sow sweet alyssum, larkspur, batchelor buttons, and California Iceland and Shirley poppies. Sprinkle seeds on a roughly raked surface and water thoroughly.
- Clean out existing bird houses before spring. Place new houses.

LAWN CARE

- Winterize your fescue lawn, if you haven't already, and apply a fertilizer high in Nitrogen.
- Prepare all lawns for spring with a pre- and post-emergent product specific for either cool-season or warm-season grasses. Apply approximately 6-weeks after your last application.
- Rake your lawn clean from tree debris.