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Adding Artful Beauty  
and Value to your Outdoor Spaces



## Around the Garden

Hello and welcome to the winter season.

Even though this is a quieter time in the garden, there is still work to do to insure your garden stays healthy and is ready for spring. Now is the time when certain plants and trees need to be pruned and the garden needs a good cleanup once all the fall leaves are off the trees. It's not a

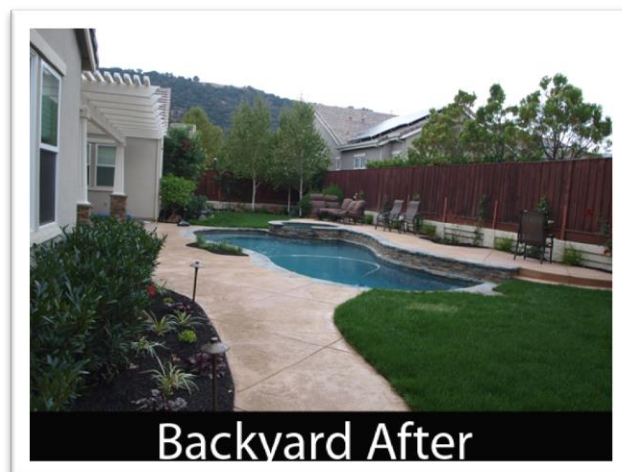
good idea to leave it all on the ground for long for wintering pests and diseases to flourish, especially under the roses. It's a good practice to keep shrubs cleaned up and cut back by January.

Last week, I put in two winter vegetable gardens, so if you like peas, cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, or many varieties of lettuce don't overlook this season to grow your own! All your winter to do items are detailed in our garden tips below.

I also wanted to share the before and after of a back yard I designed to add some entertainment and interest to a yard that held little interest for the homeowners before. Their little girl spent all summer in the new pool and the parents enjoyed their new spa while she was napping!

Wishing all a happy and safe holiday season with family and friends.

Feel free to contact me to help with your pruning or send this newsletter



to friends who may like help with their own yards. Blessings to you all.



## December & January Garden Tips

### December Tips

- Apply a second application of dormant spray to your fruit trees and roses.
- On these cold nights, make sure plants are well watered, especially the ones under the eaves that don't get any rain all season. Plants that are too dry are susceptible to damage.
- Spray frost tender plants, such as Citrus, Ferns, Cymbidium Orchids and Bougainvillea with a solution called 'Cloud Cover' purchased at any nursery or hardware store. If very chilly nights, you can also cover your tenders with a breathable landscape fabric for added protection.
- Prune any dormant trees now if you have not done so already.
- Also now is a great time to transplant any trees or shrubs that are dormant. Doing it now will ensure the greatest success with a minimum amount of transplant shock.



### Video Tip

#### Planting in Large Pots

This month's video shows you how to use large pots and plants to add color and curbside appeal.

### January Tips

- Feed the lawn monthly even during cold winter months to maintain its green color and minimize rust disease. Choose a fall and winter fertilizer especially formulated for the season and our area.
- Feed your Camellias/Rhododendrons, Azaleas and even Roses and Lilac with a ratio fertilizer of 0-10-10. This helps feed the plant for better bloom production.
- Spray for Peach Leaf Curl and use a dormant spray on roses and fruit trees.
- Spray 'Cloud Cover' on your tender plants, such as ferns and citrus when a bad frost is expected at night.
- Annuals for early spring color can be planted now. Primroses, Pansies, Violas, Iceland Poppies,

- Clean up under your shrubs and trees, dead leaves can harbor winter insects and/or diseases.
- Bring some color to your garden beds and/or pots this month by adding annuals. Cyclamen, Primroses, Pansy's, Viola's, Iceland Poppies and Stock make a nice splash of color now.
- Feed your lawns again with a winter food and a crabgrass control if there are any signs of this invasive weed.



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- Snapdragons and Stock can give some much needed early spring color.
- If you haven't pruned your fruit trees and roses, now is the month. Roses need to have a dormant (sleep) period to rejuvenate for the next season, so it is helpful to actually pick all the leaves off the plant and help them have their rest period.
  - Don't prune your spring blooming shrubs/trees such as Lilac or Quince; you'll be cutting off this year's buds. Wait till after they bloom, and then cut back.
  - If you are interested in Strawberries, Rhubarb and any of the Berries, now is the time to get these at the nursery.
  - January and February are prime Camellia time! Pick your favorite color, either single or double blooming, and enjoy these beauties in your garden when not much else is blooming this time of year.
  - If you enjoy growing vegetables, the cool season crop can be fun. There is Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Celery, Kale, Lettuce, Onions, Peas, Radishes, Spinach, Turnips and Swiss chard.

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