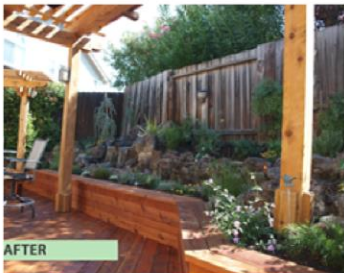




Adding Artful Beauty
and Value to your Outdoor Spaces

Around the Garden



Hello and welcome to a new year full of exciting new opportunities and adventures, in the garden and out!

Let's begin this year full of high energy as there is quite a bit to do in the garden this month readying it for the spring season. Roses especially need to be cut back and cleaned up and Camellia's, Rhododendrons and Azaleas need their special feed. For those of you with Fruit trees, see the 'to do' list below as they require some work this month also.

I'm sure there are a lot of gardens that were hit hard by the bitter cold we experienced, night after night, in December. Your first inclination is to cut it all back now, but wait! Don't prune yet, wait until you see any new growth along the branches or at the base of the plant, before cutting back. Have patience now and you will be rewarded in spring since many plants that look dead may not be and will recover. See more on frost damaged plants and when to prune back in this month's video below to learn more.

These photos are some before and afters from a property I had worked on this summer. A hot sunny back deck received a new cedar arbor for some shade and the slope now has a relaxing, cooling waterfall for the focal point. This is also seen from the main kitchen/eating area inside. Another cedar arbor on the lower level replaced an older smaller arbor that was definitely not the right scale for this family's entertainment needs!

Click on the picture to see a larger version.

Please call me with any questions or advice when needed and happy gardening. Feel free to share a link

to this newsletter with friends who may benefit from the content. They can sign up [here](#).

If your new year's resolution includes making over your garden, I'm happy to help you realize that dream. Happy New Year and thank you all for a wonderful 2013!



January and February Garden Tips

January To Do

- 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 more cold damage.
- Clean up under your shrubs and trees, dead leaves can harbor over-wintering insects and/or diseases.
- 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.
- 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



Video Tip

Taking Care of Plants After a Freeze

In this month's video, I share with you the best way to take care of your plants after a freeze.

February To Do

- Divide overcrowded perennials this month
- Prune fruit trees and roses if didn't last month. Also prune deciduous trees and shrubs. While the leaves are off and you can see the structure of the plant.
- Apply chelated iron to Azaleas, Citrus and Gardenias if yellowing. This helps them green up for spring.
- Apply the 3rd and last dormant spray on fruit trees at the "pink-bud" stage. This controls the Peach -Leaf Curl that Peach and

plant for better bloom production.

- Spray for Peach Leaf Curl and 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, 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.

Nectarine trees are likely to get.

- This month there is a good selection of bare root fruit trees like grapes and berries at your local nurseries. Also roses are usually available at a lower cost to you than later when they can be bought in bloom.
- Summer blooming bulbs can be purchased and planted now. Asiatic Lilies, Gladiolus, Dahlias, Calla Lilies and Tuberous Begonias are just some of the choices.



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