

December Garden Calendar

LAWN CARE

- Maintain cool season grasses by mowing as needed.
- Keep tree leaves from collecting on your lawn.

FERTILIZING

- Ashes from the fireplace can be spread around gardens and bulb beds where soil pH is below 6.0. Avoid acid-loving plants. (3 lbs of ash = 1 lb of limestone)
- Now is the time to put out limestone if needed (it takes about three months for lime to change the soil's pH)
- Fertilize houseplants as needed.

PLANTING

Now is a good time to set out or transplant landscape plants if the ground isn't frozen. Be sure to "open up" the root balls on container plants.

PRUNING

- Prune berry-producing plants, if berries are desired in table arrangements over the holidays.
- Cut back herbaceous perennials after the frost kills the tops.
- Any dead or diseased wood can be pruned out anytime of the year.
- Weeds or unnecessary trees should be removed from the landscape.

SPRAYING None

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Keep your Christmas tree in water and away from heat sources.
- Poinsettias should be placed in the sunniest room in the house.
- If you have received your soil recommendations, apply lime as suggested. Don't apply fertilizer until spring.
- Order fruit trees and grape vines now if you wish to plant them in February and March.
- Cover strawberries with pine straw or wheat barley to protect them from the cold.
- Continue putting the leaves from your yard into a compost bin.
- If you cover your shrubs, be cautious and use only burlap or white plastic.

*Plan a stroll through the
Nash County Arboretum located at
1006 Eastern Avenue in Nashville.
The 11 beautiful gardens are
maintained by the
Nash County
Master Gardener Volunteers.*



**Extension
Master
Gardener**

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NASH COUNTY CENTER

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