

WINTERIZING CHECKLIST

Know your USDA zone. Understanding the average annual extreme minimum winter temperature is important in creating an action plan. Here is the link below. Just follow the prompts:

<http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/>

Contact our local agricultural extension service to find the likely dates of your first frost and last anticipated frost at:

<http://cenapa.ucanr.edu/about/contact/>

Chop, clip, cut and clean. Tidy up the garden by removing spent stalks and other plant debris that might become a winter incubator for pests and diseases. Removing dead and dying foliage will give your garden a cared-for look all winter and free you up from grooming chores in the spring when you'd rather be doing fun things ... such as adding new plants to the garden.

Remove weeds now, especially invasives. Pull out any weeds or other unwanted plants. Take special care to place invasive plants - especially the seed heads — in a covered garbage container, not your compost pile.

Divide perennials. Fall is a good time to divide a wide variety of plants in many parts of the country. The general rule is to divide them at least six weeks before the first frost so they get established before freezing weather arrives. Candidates for division are plant clumps that don't flower as vigorously as they once did or those that have bare spots in the middle.

Give the bulbs some love. Dig up and store tender bulbs that may not survive freezes. Dry them out on newspaper for several weeks and then put them in a container and cover them with sawdust, sand, perlite or vermiculite until they're ready to be replanted. If a few recurring frosty nights are predicted, add an extra layer of mulch to hardy bulbs you've left in the ground.

Baby the beds. After tidying up the garden and replanting divided plants, add compost, as much as 3-4 inches, to the beds. Nutrients from the mulch will leach into the beds during winter rains. The remnants of the compost can be turned into the soil in the spring.

Spread mulch. This is especially important for newly planted perennials, such as recently-planted native species (from the Ca. Native Plant Society plant sale) that haven't had time to develop an extensive root system. The mulch will help keep the ground at a relatively consistent temperature until spring and prevent cycles in the soil that may cause the ground to uproot new plants. Check the mulch in January and February to see if it has thinned out because of winter weather or other reasons and add more mulch if necessary

Hydrate evergreens. Deep soaks in the fall are important if autumn has been dry. Conifers, such as yews, and broadleaf evergreens, such as hollies and boxwoods, are susceptible to winter burn because they release moisture through their leaves year-round. Pay particular attention to broadleaf types that have a south/southwest exposure to the afternoon sun, and give them extra water as needed.

Protect bark on young trees. Newly planted trees, especially fruit trees, have thin bark that can suffer sunscald or crack from fluctuating day/night temperatures. Tree wrap tape and plastic spiral tree protectors can help prevent this problem. Remember to remove the tape as soon as the weather warms.

Create windbreaks. Exposed evergreens, including citrus, are also susceptible to wind burn. In the fall, drive three stakes into the ground on the windward side of plants you want to protect. Put the stakes in a "V" formation with the front stake facing the wind and wrap burlap or landscape fabric around the stakes. It is not necessary to wrap the entire plant.

Saving the shrubs. Tender shrubs and citrus can be wrapped in burlap or agricultural fabric when prolonged freeze nights are forecast. Remove the fabric when temperatures warm up to prevent overheating the plant. Don't use plastic. Plastic doesn't breathe and can result in high temperatures that will "cook" the plant. Consider putting three stakes together and creating a simple teepee to put over shrubs. Put the teepee frame in place in the fall and cover it with cloth when frost predicted to protect the plants.

Citrus. The University of California Division of Agricultural and Natural Resources (UCANR) provides this downloadable information on protecting citrus from frost damage:

<http://homeorchard.ucdavis.edu/8100.pdf>

Water features. The No. 1 rule is don't allow the pump to freeze. Check with garden pond maintenance experts in our county about whether your pump will move water all winter or whether it and the plants in the pond should be removed and stored until winter.

Fresh veggies. Even during our Northern California winter, Napa County gardeners in can continue to grow and harvest cool-season crops such as lettuce, spinach, kale, beets, broccoli, cauliflower, and Brussels sprouts. If you are ready to tackle cool season vegetables, check out UCANR Napa Co. Harvest by Season info. http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmgnapa/Winter_Harvest/

COVER CROP LINKS

<http://acmg.ucanr.edu/files/121648.pdf>

http://ucanr.edu/sites/nm/Cover_cropping/

http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_a/A129/ nitrogen fixing bacteria in nodules

HERE IS A PEST MANAGEMENT INFORMATIONAL LINK:

A monthly guide to help gardeners use integrated pest management (IPM) to avoid and manage common pests of landscape trees, shrubs, and vines.

-This link explains 'how to' use the link below

<http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=19562>

-This is the actual link. Please use 'Solano County' as a starting point as Napa Co. has yet to be included.

<http://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/landscapechecklist/>

Peach leaf curl info:

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7426.html>

Rose info

<http://ipm.ucanr.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7463.html>

Dividing perennials

<http://www.clemson.edu/extension/hgic/plants/landscape/flowers/hgic1150.html>

'Sunset' winter Checklists

<http://www.sunset.com/garden/garden-basics/no-california-checklist-october>

<http://www.sunset.com/garden/garden-basics/northern-california-checklist-november>

<http://www.sunset.com/garden/garden-basics/no-california-checklist-december>

County of Napa hazardous waste management for hazardous waste disposal info/locations

<http://naparecycling.com/household-hazardous-waste/>

TOOL CARE INSTRUCTIONS & SUPPLY LIST

CLEANING SUPPLIES:

1. WOOD OR METAL SCRAPERS
2. RAGS &/OR SCOURING PADS
3. WIRE BRUSHES &/OR SANDPAPER
4. STEEL WOOL
5. FILES
6. WHET STONES



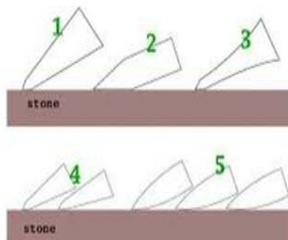
-OIL-WD-40 or the like(not biodegradable but will last 6 months) or Vegetable or Mineral oils (biodegradable but only lasts 30 days)

AFTER EACH USE:

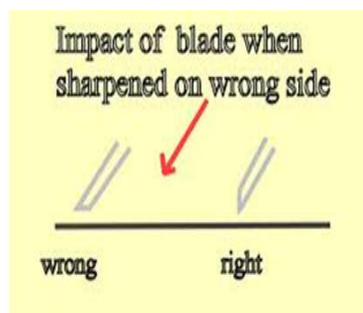
- Remove any debris (via dry brush and/or water)
- dry thoroughly if water used
- oil liberally
- sharpen blade (just a 'touch up')
- oil again
- store properly

YEARLY UPKEEP

- Assess each tool's needs (rust removal, sharpening, oiling handle etc.)
- Begin by removing all debris and rust (using scrapers; steel wool; sandpaper; scouring pads; wire brushes; soapy water)
- Oil liberally
- If tool needs sharpening keep in mind the correct sharpening angle



Finding the right angle



And blade type:



-oil liberally

-store correctly (dry location out of direct sunlight; hung up or stacked so that they can be viewed/chosen with the least effort)

UCMG Newspaper article 'Take Care of Your Tools.....' dated 10/8/16

<http://ucanr.edu/blogs/blogcore/postdetail.cfm?postnum=22304>

Gardening Resources

UC Master Gardeners of Napa County provide free home gardening advice. Visit, call or complete the online diagnosis form for assistance.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
UC Cooperative Extension
1710 Soscol Avenue, Suite 4, Napa
(707) 253-4143

UC IPM'S plant problem diagnostic tool

<http://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/diagnostics/http://www2.ipm.ucanr.edu/diagnostics/>

Napa County Master Gardeners Website

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmgnapa/http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmgnapa/>

UCIPM online (Integrated Pest Management)

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.eduhttp://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>

Vegetable Research

<http://vric.ucdavis.edu/index.htmhttp://vric.ucdavis.edu/index.htm>

The California Garden Web

<http://cagardenweb.ucanr.edu/>

Food Gardening With Less Water (Sonoma County MGs)

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/scmg/files/183770.pdfhttp://ucanr.edu/sites/scmg/files/183770.pdf>

City of Napa Waterwise

http://www.cityofnapa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=228&Itemid=314http://www.cityofnapa.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=228&Itemid=314

County of Napa Water Conservation

<http://www.countyofnapa.org/WaterConservation/>

Sources of compost: South Napa County Recycling and Disposal Services, 820 Levitin Way, American Canyon, 255-5200; Upper Valley Disposal service, 1285 Whitehall Lane, St. Helena, 963-7988

SOME LINKS OF INTEREST IN 'CROP ROTATION'

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmgnapa/files/160975.pdf>

http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmgnapa/Gardening_Books/Healthy_Garden_Tips_A/

<http://cagardenweb.ucanr.edu/Vegetables/>

http://sacmg.ucanr.edu/Crop_Rotation/

http://sjmastergardeners.ucanr.edu/Home_Vegetable_Gardening/

CROP ROTATION CHART

| | | | | |
|--------|--|--|---|---|
| Year 1 | Area 1  Leaves | Area 2  Fruits | Area 3  Roots | Area 4  Legumes |
| Year 2 | Area 1  Fruits | Area 2  Roots | Area 3  Legumes | Area 4  Leaves |
| Year 3 | Area 1  Roots | Area 2  Legumes | Area 3  Leaves | Area 4  Fruits |
| Year 4 | Area 1  Legumes | Area 2  Leaves | Area 3  Fruits | Area 4  Roots |