



January



Gardening Activities

Prepare:

- Now is a good time to sharpen mower blades, and repair garden tools and equipment. Rub down handles with linseed oil.
- Recycle Christmas trees- either through your city's recycling program or prune off evergreen boughs and place them around azaleas, camellias, and other acid-loving plants.
- Replenish mulch in garden in order to minimize winter weed germination.
- Groom perennial plants. Deadhead faded flowers on poppies, primrose and stock to keep them blooming.
- Prune roses, most dormant deciduous plants, flowering shrubs and vines. For plants that flower in early spring, however, wait until after bloom.
- Wait to prune frost-damaged plants until they show new growth.

Design & Plan:

- Now through March look for bareroot fruit trees.
- Check nurseries for new shipments of spring bulbs. Start planting gladiolus in mild areas.
- Select roses to enhance your garden as well as winter-blooming Australian shrubs.
- Plant California natives, everything from groundcovers to trees so they establish roots before the heavy rains.

Planting:

- Plant alyssum, calendula, poppy, candytuft, columbine, coreopsis, cyclamen, English daisy, delphinium, hollyhock, Iceland poppy, ornamental cabbage, pansy, primrose, snapdragon, stock, sweet pea, and wildflowers.
- Plant artichoke, horseradish, asparagus, rhubarb, and lettuces.
- Use fast germinating radish seeds to mark rows of slower germinating crops like carrot and parsley.

Pest and Weed Control:

- Watch for camellia petal blight. If your petals turn brown and blossoms rot in the center, pick infested flowers from plants, rake up fallen flowers and leaves, and dispose.