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DECEMBER'S ORGANIC PLANNING GUIDE

This is a Great Time to Plant!

PLANT:

- **Trees, shrubs, vines, groundcover.** This is the best time to plant so they will be well established by summer.
- **Pansies, cyclamen, dianthus, snapdragons, primulas, ornamental cabbage & kale** for winter color.
- **Spring-flowering bulbs** including daffodils can be planted now. **Tulips & Dutch hyacinths** that have been refrigerated for at least 45 days at 45° can be planted after mid-December.
- **Texas Tough Perennials** such as daylilies, coneflowers, salvia, blackfoot daisies, ferns, hostas, etc. Dig & divide spring perennials early in the month.
- **Roses (EarthKind Roses** are heat and drought tolerant and resistant to insect/disease.)
- **Fruit and pecan trees, grapes and berries.**

PRUNE:

- **Peach & plum trees** to 8 or 9 ft. by removing vertical shoots. **Grapevines** by 80-85% of canes.
- **Shrubs** as needed to reshape and remove dead branches—save major pruning for late winter.
- **Trees** as needed to remove mistletoe, dead or damaged limbs, and unwanted roots--limit removal to 1 or 2 significant roots each year.

FERTILIZE:

- Newly planted trees and shrubs with **Nature's Guide Root Stimulator** every 2-3 weeks to help prevent transplant shock, increase beneficial microorganisms, and encourage root development.
- Plants that aren't thriving with **Nature's Guide Tree Therapy** w/corn meal, molasses, greensand, etc.
- Existing ryegrass and fescue with **Ladybug 8-2-4**.
- Add **Texas Greensand** for deep greening in lawns, trees and landscape plants.

BE ON WATCH:

- For bugs use **Ferti.lome Triple Action** which contains Neem Oil, an all-purpose organic remedy.
- Keep fallen leaves off your lawn—they compact and trap moisture which can lead to turf diseases. Use **Nature's Guide Potassium Bicarbonate** for powdery mildew and a host of diseases and fungi.
- Apply **Nature's Guide Garrett Juice** once a month to your landscape to increase beneficial microorganisms in the soil and to reduce the need for water.
- Spot treat grassy and broadleaf weeds with **Nature's Guide 20% Vinegar** with 2 oz of Orange Oil added during warmer weather.
- Keep **frost cloth** on hand and cover tender plants to protect from freezing weather. Top dress landscape and flower beds with 2 inch layer of **mulch** to help retain moisture and keep soil temperature warmer.

WATER:

- Container plants, flower beds, shrubs and trees as needed to keep healthy and to lessen winter damage.
- Trees installed for less than two years must have special care to ensure a strong and healthy root system. See our Plant Article on **Tree Care for the First Two Years** on our website or come by and pick one up.

We're open 7 days a week to serve you!

It's a great time to contact our Landscape Department to design and/or install a new landscape project.