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JANUARY'S PLANNING GUIDE

This is a Great Time to Plant!

PLANT:

- **Trees and shrubs** so they will be well established by summer. Avoid planting cold-tender plants such as: gardenia, oleander, pittosporum and palms. **Transplant existing shrubs/trees** that need relocating.
- **Pecan and fruit trees, blackberries, and grapevines.**
- **Pansies, panolas, violas, cyclamen, snapdragons, dianthus, ornamental kale/cabbage** 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°.
- **Onions, potatoes, asparagus** later this month.

PRUNE:

- **Trees** as needed to remove mistletoe, dead or damaged limbs, and unwanted roots--limit removal to 1 or 2 significant roots each year. Don't "top" trees.
- **Shrubs/vines** that require heavy shearing and re-shaping (not spring flowering shrubs or vines e.g., hydrangea, quince, forsythia, spirea, azaleas, Caroline Jessamine, wisteria, etc.)
- **Fruit trees** to encourage stronger limbs. Peaches and plums to 8 or 9 ft. by removing vertical shoots. **Grapes** to remove 75% to 85% of their cane growth.

FERTILIZE:

- Newly planted trees & shrubs every 3-4 weeks for first year with **Ferti.lome Root Stimulator**.
- Pansies and other annuals with **Hi-Yield Blood and Bone Meal** and **Ferti.lome 20-20-20 Water-Soluble Plant Food** to promote new blooms through winter.
- Existing ryegrass and fescue with **Covington's Premium Lawn Fertilizer**.

BE ON WATCH:

- Control dandelion, henbit & clover with **Ferti.lome Weed-Free Zone**.
- Keep fallen leaves off your lawn—they compact and trap moisture which can lead to turf diseases. Apply **Ferti.lome F-Stop** to St. Augustine for Brown Patch (yellow blades that separate easily).
- Aphids, spider mites, mealy bugs, other problem insects; control with **Bonide All Seasons or Hi-Yield Dormant Oil**.
- To kill borers in the trunks of trees, use **Ferti.lome Systemic Insect Drench**. Protects for up to one year.
- Spray fruit trees with **Dormant Oil** for scale insects over wintering.
- Top dress landscape/flower beds with a 2-inch layer of **mulch** to help retain moisture, reduce weeds and maintain soil temperature. Keep **frost cloth** on hand & cover tender plants to protect from freezing weather.

WATER:

- Container plants, flower beds, shrubs and trees as needed to keep healthy. Water before a freeze to reduce winter damage. To improve water retention, add **Soil Moist & Expanded Shale (or Covington's Soil Builder)** when planting.
- 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.

*Now is the time to plan changes to your landscape! Visit with one of our nursery professionals to get help with your plant needs or call our Landscape Services Team at (972) 475-5888 Ext. 5 for professional landscape design & installation (including outdoor kitchens, fireplaces, arbors, patios, stonework, etc. Our installation crews work throughout the winter. **We specialize in outdoor living!***