

Timely Tips for December 2013

Winter can be a wonderful time of year in the garden. Winter may lack the wild riot of color and growth that we all so love in Spring, but Winter has a different kind of beauty. Some of our favorite Winter gardens are understated, tranquil and calming. Interesting evergreen shrubs and grasses really stand out in this season, as well as trees with beautiful bark. Flowering shrubs like Camellias are Winter favorites.

As for annuals, we Texans are quite fortunate in Winter choices. The new generation of cool season pansies will provide color from now until late Spring. Other flowering annuals like Snapdragons, Cyclamen, Flowering Cabbage and Kale provide both color and shape for the Winter garden.

Even better Winter is the perfect time to plan and lay the foundation for Spring. December is the month to plant your chilled bulbs for big Spring blooms. And this is also a good time to prune and reshape your trees and shrubs. Do not top crapemyrtles, simply remove the seedheads and prune for shape.

You should also prepare your garden for cold weather. First of all, make sure that your plants are in excellent shape, well-watered and well-fed, because a healthy plant will survive cold snaps more easily. 3 to 4 inches of mulch provides insulation that keeps the ground beneath it warmer, thus protecting roots. If you have tender plants, stock up on Frost Cloth now, so that you have it on hand when you need it. Frost Cloth is simply an insulating blanket for your plants. It should be draped over them when cold weather is approaching. To be effective the Frost Cloth should reach the ground all the way around, so that it effectively captures the heat emanating from the ground and keeps the air around your plants marginally warmer.

It's a lovely season in Texas, enjoy the cool bite of frosty mornings, warm drinks by the fireside, bright lights on trees and homes, and most of all, your treasured family and friends.

Decorating for the Holidays

For most of us Texans, it isn't the 'holidays' until the poinsettias and the cyclamen have been put on display. Even more than the traditional trees and wreaths, the poinsettias and cyclamen say 'Christmas in Texas.'

As in years past, Calloway's is carrying a stunning assortment of floral quality poinsettias. These plants are simply unmatched for quality and beauty. Even more important, when you buy these poinsettias you are helping disadvantaged children and their families. A portion of the proceeds from every poinsettia sold goes to the Lena Pope Home. Make your holiday home beautiful, and the life of a child more beautiful, with poinsettias from Calloway's.

Plus, Calloway's also carries the freshest Christmas Trees, as well as North Texas' finest line of Pre-Lit Artificial Trees.

Stop in, for your most beautiful Christmas ever.