

WEGMAN'S NURSERY NOVEMBER GARDEN TIPS

Beginning Monday, November 4th, our winter business hours will be from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm — 7 days a week; weather permitting.

Noble Fir & Silver Tip Christmas Trees Are Arriving Soon!

**Christmas trees will be available for purchase
on
Monday, November 25th**

(Due to the possibility of inclement weather in the areas from which we obtain our trees, we suggest calling Sunday, November 24th to confirm.)

Deliveries Will Start on Tuesday, November 26th

Don't forget to reserve your Christmas tree delivery date now by calling (650) 368-5908. Sorry, but we cannot reserve a specific type or size of Christmas tree for customers. Please come to the nursery and pick out a tree that suits you as it's too personal a decision for us to assume. The Wegman's staff is busily preparing for the arrival of Christmas trees to the nursery so that we can have them ready for you before Thanksgiving. Noble fir and silver tip trees will be available for purchase on Monday, November 25th with deliveries starting on Tuesday, November 26th.

Prepare for staying longer indoors by surrounding yourself with more indoor plants, decorative pottery and holiday decorations. Start preparing your Amaryllis and Paperwhite Narcissus for Christmas. See our [Care Guides](#) in the bulb area for instructions.

Growing Paperwhites (*Narcissus papyraceus*) for indoor bloom: Paperwhite bulbs take about five to seven weeks to bloom. If you want bloom for the holidays, start the bulbs in early November. To prevent legginess, start bulbs outdoors the beginning of November in a sunny location. You can start bulbs in either soil or gravel. When foliage has reached two to three inches tall, bring indoors if the weather is cold and place in a window or a porch with full sun. If the weather stays warm, leave the plants in their sunny location out of doors. Once buds begin to develop, you can place narcissus anywhere in the house (see our [Paperwhites Care Guide](#)).

In keeping with the Wegman's tradition, handmade Advent wreaths, holiday wreaths and centerpieces will be on hand. Place your orders early with one of our cashiers. Wreaths, garlands and swags will also be arriving shortly before Thanksgiving. ***We are closed Thanksgiving Day, November 28th, in observance of the holiday.*** We will reopen at 8am on Friday, November 29th.

Garden Tips from Wegman's Professionals...

Late fall on the Peninsula is the time to plant and prepare for the holidays. New plantings establish roots more quickly in warm soils and we hope winter rains will also help plants get established more easily. Fall is a great time to plant California natives, as well as most other temperature-hardy trees, shrubs and perennials. Wait until spring for tropical plants such as bougainvillea, princess flower and Mandevilla.

Now is a good time to plant spring-blooming bulbs. Please refer to our [Spring Bulbs Care Guide](#) (daffodils, tulips, freesia, hyacinths, ranunculus, etc.).

If you order and pay for [Bare-Root Fruit Trees](#) or [Bare-Root Roses](#) before November 30th, you will receive a 10% discount. Also available are specialty and hard-to-find varieties of fruit trees available on Wegman's [First Pick Varieties](#) (sorry, the discount does not apply to our First Pick Fruit Trees list).

WATERING AND IRRIGATION: As the weather cools down and days shorten before the rainy season begins, remember to adjust your irrigation systems downward for fall weather. Once the rains begin, turn systems off. If there is no rain for two weeks, resume watering. Remember—lawns, trees and shrubs cannot coexist on the same water schedule; nor can they thrive on only lawn sprinkler watering.

FOR NEW LANDSCAPE PLANTINGS: Once planting is completed, water plants well. Check plants for water daily for the first week and if necessary, place hose on trickle near the base of the plant and leave on for up to 30 minutes. You may need to run drip or spray systems every three to four days for the first two weeks if you find that the top two to three inches of soil dries out quickly. For groundcovers in full sun, water new plantings deeply to about six inches every four to five days. You can adjust your systems according to the following recommendations after this period. The [Rapitest® Soil Moisture Meter](#) is a worthwhile investment. We have discovered, especially with new plantings, that the backfill may be moist but the root ball is dry, and the plant suffers accordingly. The [Rapitest® Soil Moisture Meter](#) would help you to prevent that.

LAWNS: Ideally, lawns should be watered once per week for one-half to one hour to encourage deep root systems. Before the rains come is a perfect time to have your lawns aerated and dethatched if it hasn't been done this year. If your water runs off the lawn, you may have to divide the time into two or three applications. As soon as the rains begin, turn systems off.



SHRUBS & ROSES: For most bubbler or spray systems, once per week for one hour should be adequate. To decrease the incidence of rust, remember to avoid direct water on rose foliage unless you water early in the morning. Contrary to popular belief, wet foliage does not promote powdery mildew. If you have a drip system, set systems to emit five gallons of water two times per week.



TREES: Water established trees once a month through November (until the rain begins) for a few hours with bubblers at the drip line to ensure a deep soaking. You can also build a berm at least four to six inches high and flood monthly or use a [Ross® Root Feeder](#) for trees planted in lawns. Deciduous fruit trees can go dry to push them into dormancy. Lawn sprinklers do not provide enough water to keep a tree healthy.

VEGETABLES: Soaker hoses work great for winter vegetable gardens. Run them one to two times per week for four to five hours. Turn pressure on until you count one drip every three seconds along the entire line. If you see a spray four to six or more inches high, you have too much pressure.

MULCHES: When all your trees, shrubs and vegetables have been planted, they should be mulched. Almost any kind of organic matter can be used as mulch. Some examples are wood chips, fir bark, redwood compost, fir compost, rice hulls, hay and even newspaper. Some of the materials are more attractive than others. The purpose of the mulch is to suppress weeds, help prevent evaporation of water from the soil, keep the soil cooler in the summer and warmer in the winter. It will also be attractive and gradually work into the soil as an amendment. Mulches (except newspapers) should be two to four inches deep and should be kept about four inches away from the trunks of trees and shrubs. Shredded Redwood bark (sometimes called "gorilla hair") has **not** been found to be satisfactory as mulch; it soon loses its attractiveness and does not permit water to pass through. Shredded Redwood bark, when compressed with a roller, does make a good foot path.

Have your pruning tools cleaned, sharpened and tuned up for their yearly servicing and in preparation for the pruning season. If you have shears and they are difficult to open or close, they should be completely disassembled and cleaned then sharpened.

ANNUALS AND WILDFLOWERS

Broadcast California poppy and native wildflower seeds. After preparing the soil (unless you plan to feed the birds!) as follows:

1. Remove or clear existing vegetation such as weeds, groundcovers or grass in areas to be planted. The goal is to reduce competition so that seedlings flourish and become established.
2. Loosen soil to at least one inch.
3. Sow seeds. Mix in some (1) Asclepias seed to attract butterflies.
4. Cover with one-half inch of **Master Nursery® Gardener's Gold™ Potting Soil**. We prefer this cover to others because it's light enough for seeds to penetrate when germinating, yet heavy enough so that it isn't displaced by water or wind.
5. Water as needed to keep the soil moist and to prevent the seedlings from drying out.



Continue planting winter annuals—Try (1) calendula, (2) snapdragons, and (3) stock, for fall and winter color. For more color through the winter months, plant (4) violas, (5) pansies, (6) Iceland poppies, (7) English primrose, (8) Fairy Primrose, (9) Primula obconica, (10) cyclamen and (11) flowering kale and (12) cabbage. Mix in some edible colorful greens such as (13) red leaf lettuce and (14) rainbow chard. Hold off on planting the (15) cineraria until mid-winter.

Refresh your soil after pulling your summer annuals—add one to two inches of **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** and broadcast **Master Nursery® Master Start** at the rate of one pound to 50 square feet and mix into a depth of five to six inches. If your soil has been tilled and amended and is in good tilth, do not rototill or dig it up again—plant and then mulch some more.

Be sure to plant your annuals before the end of the month, before the ground becomes cold. If planted too late, they will just sit there all winter with little or no growth.

Start sweet peas from seed—ideally, you should prepare a trench about 12 inches deep and wide. Mix one-third **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** to two-thirds native soil and fill the hole with this amended mixture. Add **Master Nursery® Master Start® Fertilizer** at the rate of one pound to 50 square feet. Plant two seeds one-inch deep and six inches apart and water in well. For a novel twist, let sweet peas climb on existing shrubs. White sweet peas, for example, growing onto a red climbing rose or mixed sweet peas climbing on an ivy-covered fence provide a mildly wild look, boosting viewing pleasure. (See our [Sweet Pea Care Guide](#).)



Forget-me-nots can also be started from seed in semi-shady areas.

Snail control— Don't forget to apply **Monterey Sluggo®** or **Deadline®** after planting annuals. **Monterey Sluggo®** is safe for pets and children but baits such as **Deadline®** with Metaldehyde are extremely toxic to dogs and all other animals.

Many annuals such as (1) zinnias, (2) cosmos, (3) snapdragons, etc. have become mildewed now that summer is over. Don't bother trying to treat the mildew. Get rid of the plants when they finish blooming. Do not compost. Leave a few Cosmos with seeds if possible, for the gold finches to feed on. Apply **Bonide® Captain Jack's DeadBug Brew (Spinosad)**, **Monterey B.t.** or **Ortho MAX® Malathion Insect Spray** to control caterpillars on petunias and (4) geraniums.



We have learned that all the Narcissus family (daffodils, etc.) live longer and don't rot if they are planted in an area that does not get summer water (May to October).

BULBS

Now is the time to plant spring-blooming bulbs. We still have an excellent selection, including (1) tulips, (2) daffodils, (3) hyacinth, (4) freesias, (5) narcissus, (6) iris, (7) anemone, and (8) ranunculus. We also carry a select handful of unusual bulbs such as: (9) Ipheion uniflorum, (10) Lycoris, (11) Galanthus and (12) Leucojum. The Galanthus and Leucojum will bloom and naturalize under trees in your semi-wild area.





Remember to refrigerate tulips and hyacinths for six to eight weeks before planting. Store bulbs in paper bags, and place in the refrigerator away from ripe fruits. Be sure bulbs stay dry.

Bulbs that don't need refrigeration can be held dormant in the crisper of your refrigerator and be planted later to prolong the blooming season. Remember—if fruits (apples, pears, bananas, tomatoes, etc.) are stored near bulbs, the bulbs may not bloom.

Plant narcissus bulbs, i.e., daffodils, etc., in groups of 20, 30 or more for an eye-catching flower bed. See our [Spring Bulbs Care Guide](#).

In our climate, tulips and hyacinths are seldom repeat bloomers and usually are treated as annuals. Pot them up in containers with low growing annuals over the top, enjoy them when they bloom and then dump them in the compost bin or garbage. If you are fond of tulips, plant about 50 to 100 in a bed no more than eight inches apart. Overplant with a neutral color of (13) pansy, (14) viola or (15) alyssum. Dispose of the tulips in the spring. Grape hyacinths will naturalize and come up year after year.

Gopher control—Spray **Bonide® MoleMax® Mole & Vole Repellent** to keep gophers away from tulip and hyacinth bulbs. Follow instructions exactly for best results! We also have **Digger's® Root Guard™** to protect bulbs. All daffodils and Dutch iris are gopher and deer proof.

Remember to amend soil with **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** and to broadcast **Master Nursery® Bulb Food** when planting. You can also add **Master Nursery® Bulb Food** to individual bulb holes. Compare the ingredients in **Master Nursery® Bulb Food** to other less complete products, it's far superior. The general rule of thumb for the depth of the hole is three times the length of the bulb. We no longer recommend **Bone Meal** as a fertilizer for bulbs, because the formula has been changed and is not a complete fertilizer.

If your dahlia roots are multiplying like rabbits, or if they have not been dug up for the last two years, dig them up now, leave soil on the roots, and store them in very slightly moist sawdust or **Master Nursery® Forest Blend**. In the spring, separate them and replant. See our [Dahlia Care Guide](#).

Don't repot your cymbidium orchids until they finish blooming: the dwarfs by January and the standards by May.

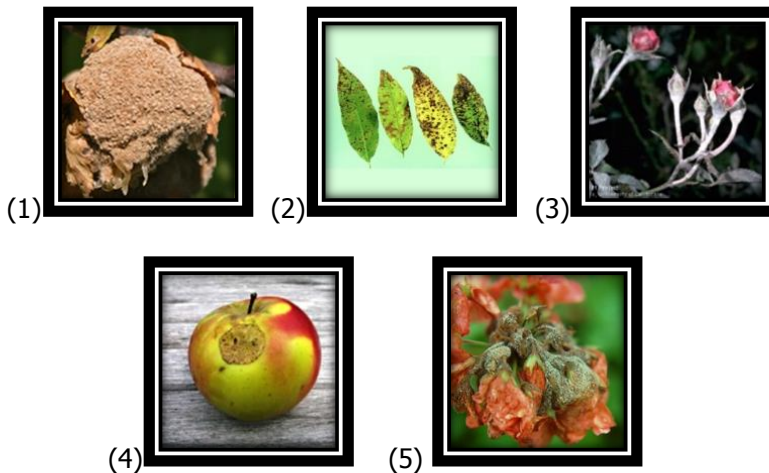
See our [Spring Bulbs Care Guide](#) for more helpful hints.

FRUIT TREES

Last chance to Preorder Bare-Root Fruit Trees! Paid orders receive a 10% discount if ordered before November 30! [Click here](#) to view the complete selection of **Bare-Root Fruit Trees**. The **First Pick Program** includes fruit trees you may recall as a child or wish to take to Truckee (or similar) which has a much colder winter. Such trees are not normally available except by your personal orders. You have only until November 3rd to order. The discount does not apply to our First Pick Program.



If peach or nectarine trees were infected with peach leaf curl during past seasons, you must spray three times during the dormant season with a copper product that contains at least 30% copper. The first spray should occur at the end of this month then again, the end of December and the third time at the end of January. In the past, **Micro-Cop** and **Lime Sulfur** were the fungicides of choice, but they are no longer available. Now use **Monterey Liqui-Cop®** at four tablespoons per gallon of water mixed with six tablespoons of **Master Nursery® Year-Round Spray Oil** for peach leaf curl. Research at UC Davis supports that copper is the most effective control against peach leaf curl. If this fungicide is not available, spray on the same schedule with Chlorothalonil (**Bonide® Fung-onil™**). This product (**Monterey Liqui-Cop®**) is less toxic than our original products and controls (1) brown rot, (2) shot hole, (3) powdery mildew, (4) apple scab, (5) gray mold and many other fungal diseases.



Brown rot and bacterial canker of apricots, peaches, nectarines, plums and cherries, manifest as dieback of and/or oozing from short fruiting spurs or branch tips and a decrease or absence of fruit production. If symptoms of these diseases appeared this year, next year apply two additional sprays of Chlorothalonil (**Bonide® Fung-onil™**) at pink bud and full bloom. When pruning this fall or winter, you should remove dead wood, oozing wood and any wood with cankers. (See our [Care Guides](#) on specific fruit trees on this website.)

Wait until at least the end of November to begin pruning deciduous fruit trees. Wait until at least March and April to prune citrus. Pick up fallen leaves as they accumulate and dispose of them. Do not compost.

Cut back caneberrries, such as blackberries and raspberries, now. Prune to the ground canes which fruited this summer. The new canes will fruit next summer and should be tied up if necessary.

Do not fertilize deciduous fruit trees until next spring (Valentine's Day) even if you forgot the fall treatment. Normally you will fertilize about Memorial Day and Labor Day.



Fire blight appears as blackened leaves and stems and most commonly affects pears. It also can affect loquat, cotoneaster, pyracantha, apples, photinia, and some other plants in the rose family. To control, cut 9 to 12 inches below affected tissue, sterilizing pruning tools between each cut with a bleach solution or Lysol. Spray tree thoroughly with **Monterey Liqui-Cop®**. See the [Care Guide for Apples and Pears](#) for further information.

Check apple and pear trees for woolly apple aphids which have been particularly bad this year. They appear as a white cottony substance, usually in crevices, on old pruning cuts and on the roots close to the base of the tree. Spray with **Ortho® MAX® Malathion Insect Spray** or **Garden Tech Sevin®** if aphids are present.



Select and plant citrus now.



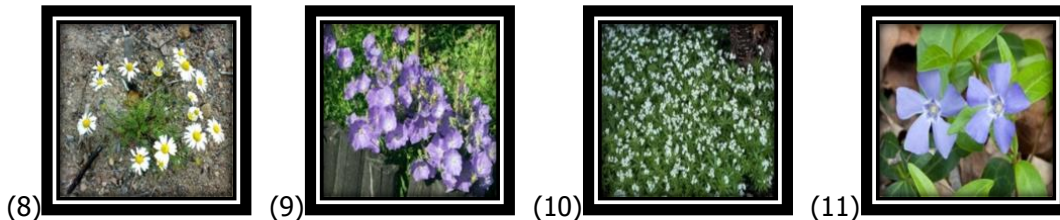
Check Citrus for snail damage and for scale. Scale is a sucking insect that usually clusters along fruit stems, new growth and the undersides of leaves. If scale is found, spray tree with a mixture of **Master Nursery® Year-Round Spray Oil** (Horticultural Oil) and **Ortho® MAX® Malathion Insect Spray**. Two weeks later make a second application. Don't use **Master Nursery® Year-Round Spray Oil** (Horticultural Oil) more than four times during the growing season. Wait at least two weeks between applications. Ants running up and down the citrus trunk, indicates an infestation of (1) scale, (2) aphids, (3) mealy bugs or (4) white flies. Also check leaves for (5) leaf miners. See [Citrus Care Guide](#) for option to control leaf miners.

If you find snails in your citrus trees, sprinkle **Monterey Sluggo®** or **Deadline®** between the trunk and drip line of the tree. An effective, non-toxic alternative is to attach a two-inch double copper band around the tree trunk, one foot above the soil level after picking all the snails from the tree. **Monterey Sluggo®** is also harmless to all animals and humans. **Deadline®** contains metaldehyde, which is toxic to all animals, people and especially dogs.

GROUNDCOVERS

If you want to create a meadow of wildflowers, now's the time to prepare the soil and sow the seeds. Look under the **ANNUALS** heading for more specific instructions.





(1) Erigeron, (2) convolvulus, (3) creeping rosemary, (4) ceanothus and (5) manzanita are excellent groundcovers for hot, dry locations (though they do need water while becoming established). (6) Blue star creeper, (7) woolly thyme and (8) creeping chamomile fill in nicely between steppingstones in full to part sun and can withstand some foot traffic. For the shade, try (9) campanula, (10) sweet woodruff and (11) Vinca minor.

To ward off slugs and snails, bait with **Monterey Sluggo®** (safe for pets and people) or **Deadline®** (toxic to all animals).

LAWNS

Fertilize lawns with **Master Nursery® Fall & Winter Feed** after the fall rains begin. This formula contains nitrate nitrogen which is quickly absorbed by grass under cooler conditions. For an **organic alternative**, try **Gardner & Bloome® Organic Lawn Food**.

Over seed Bermuda lawns, with **annual ryegrass** now, for a green lawn through the winter.

Lawn seeded through November may need moisture up to two times a day so that germinating seeds do not dry out.

Reset mower blades to one and one-half to two inches for fescue and bluegrass lawns and one to one and one-half inches for Bermuda grass lawns. Consider leaving lawn clippings on the lawn. As clippings break down, they provide the lawn with nutrients, reducing the need for fertilizers by 30-50%. Clippings will not cause thatch.

If you have had problems with **weedy grasses in your lawn**, now and again in February is the time to apply **Concern® All-Natural Weed Prevention Plus**, which is a fertilizer containing a pre-emergent that targets weedy grasses. Remember that pre-emergent weed killers will only prevent weed seeds from sprouting and have no effect on established perennial weeds. **Amaze® Grass and Weed Preventer** has no fertilizer.

If you haven't dethatched your lawn in the last year or two; now is the time to do it to take advantage of the winter rains. Dethatching removes old grass stems, grass growing sideways and dead plant material.

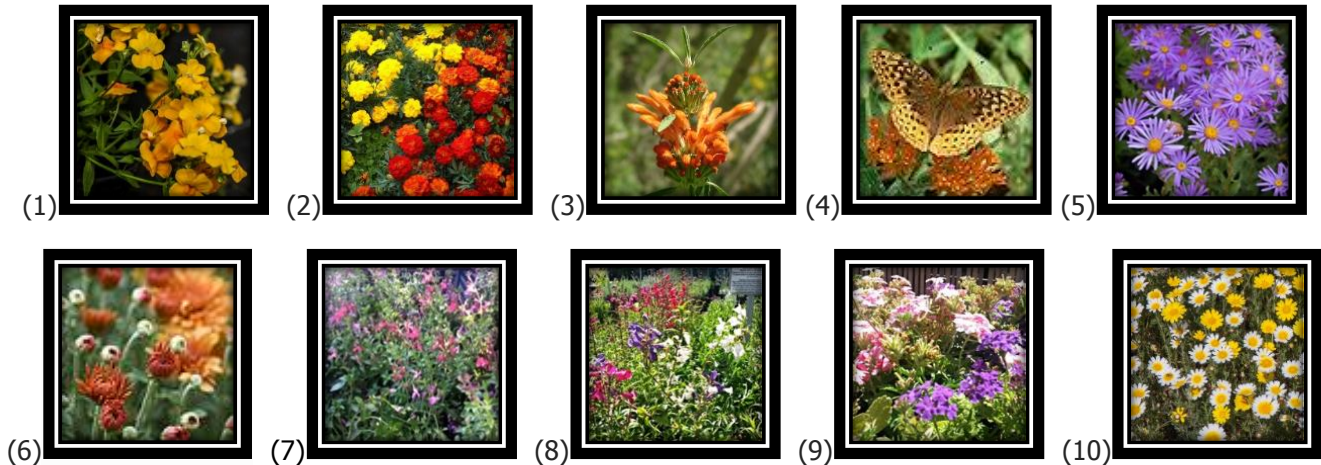
Crab grass has been a major problem for some gardeners this year. Crab grass is an annual that makes and spreads thousands of seeds. It has a wide leaf and lays flat on the lawn, smothering your regular lawn grass. **Monterey Crab-E-Rad™ PLUS** will kill the crabgrass and any other weeds in your lawn but will not harm the regular lawn grass. When the crab grass is dead rake it off and then reseed the bare spots. **Monterey Crab-E-Rad™ PLUS** works best on young crab grass.

If lawns show raccoon or lawn moth damage, apply **Bonide® Grub Beater**. (Lawn moth damage appears as scattered dead spots throughout the lawn, and raccoon damage appears as torn spots in the lawn.) Although it is too late to use Beneficial Nematodes, consider applying them next April and July. For more information refer to our **Care Guide for Beneficial Nematodes**. Beneficial Nematodes are microscopic organisms which consume various destructive soil-dwelling insects. They do not harm earthworms and are safe around pets and people. **Havahart® Critter Ridder** can be sprinkled on the lawn and has been effective in discouraging raccoons.

If lawns are a bit thin, over-seeding with the same kind of seed and one-half inch of **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** will green it up. Treat the over-seeding as you would a new lawn.

For oxalis (the plant that looks like clover) use **Monterey Turflon® Ester**, a liquid which can be sprayed over the entire lawn and will kill all weeds but is not harmful to lawn grasses.

PERENNIALS



For fall color, check out (1) nemesia, (2) Mexican marigold, (3) lion's tail, (4) butterfly weed, the (5) asters and garden (6) mums. **Many of the summer bloomers** such as the (7) salvias, (8) penstemon and (9) verbena will also stay in color through fall. **To brighten up the rainy months**, you can plant (10) marguerites now. These short-lived (2-3 years) perennials offer year-round pink, white or yellow blooms and generally withstand colder spells in our winters.

Be sure to deadhead as blooms fade to ensure bloom throughout fall, but do not prune roses.



Plant (1) foxglove, (2) columbine, and (3) bleeding heart now before month end. These spring-bloomers promise to gain bulk this fall and increase their show in the spring.

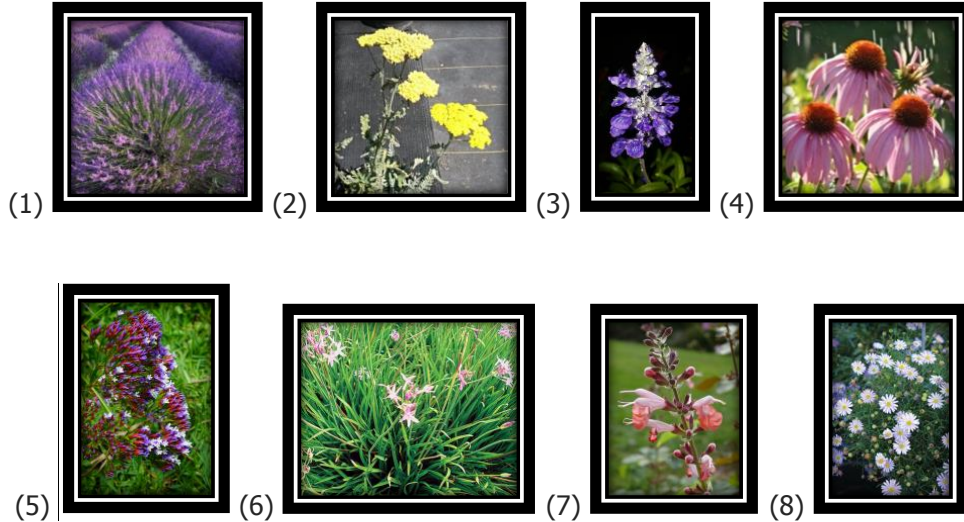


It is not too late to divide perennials such as (1) iris, (2) salvia, (3) marguerites, (4) Shasta daisies and others which have not been divided in four or five years. In most cases, the root clumps can be dug and then divided with a shovel and then rinsed and replanted at a suitable spacing.



Most of the ornamental grasses are in flower. Check out (1) blue oat grass, (2) rattlesnake grass, (3) feather reed grass, and (4) bamboo muhly. Grasses lend an architecture and texture to the landscape unmatched by other plants.

They are also drought-tolerant and deer-resistant. **For additional plants that are [Deer-Resistant](#) click here.** Cut back tall grasses by the end of November and fertilize with **Master Nursery® Formula 49™ Fertilizer.**



A nice handful of sun-loving perennials which double as both **deer-resistant and drought-tolerant plants are:** (1) lavender, (2) yarrow, the (3) salvias, (4) echinacea, (5) sea lavender, (6) society garlic, (7) penstemon and (8) brachycome. All provide excellent summer and fall color in addition to these practical attributes.



Cyclamen are perennials often treated as annuals. Pink, white and red flowering plants in four- and six-inch containers are available now. For large orders (32 or more) please give us one week's notice.

To control Bermuda grass and crabgrass and other weedy grasses in ornamental beds, try **Monterey Grass Getter®** or **Monterey Weed Stopper.** For Bermuda in lawns, use **Monterey Turflon® Ester** and for crabgrass in lawns use **Trimec® Crabgrass Plus Lawn Weed Killer.**

Bait perennials with **Monterey Sluggo®** or **Deadline®.**

ROSES

Preorder **Bare-Root Roses** now! Paid orders receive a 10% discount if ordered before November 30th.

Wait until late December or January to begin pruning roses. Gather leaves as they fall and dispose of them. Don't fertilize roses again until spring.

Don't deadhead your Rugosa roses: beautiful hips will develop and adorn plants through winter. Prune in late January.

(1) **Aphids** can be controlled by blasting off with water, by spraying with **Monterey Take Down Garden Spray, Ortho® MAX® Malathion Insect Spray, Safer® Brand Insect Killing Soap** or **Master Nursery® Pest Fighter Year-Round Spray Oil.**





(3)

Watch for insects such as; (2) katydids and (3) cucumber beetles, both of which chew on flower buds, leaving holes in flower petals. Treat as for aphids with sprays as needed.

A quick word on using **Horticultural Oil** on roses during the growing season!

- Do not use more than four times during the growing season.
- Wait at least two weeks between applications.
- Remember that oil may burn foliage and flowers, during hot spells. (Temperatures 85°F and over)
- If you are using a sulfur product to control fungi, you must wait at least one month before applying oil.
- Horticultural oils (**Master Nursery® Year-Round Spray Oil**) will eradicate mildew from plants and act as a preventive. All the other products are preventives to apply before infection.

We are recommending that you stop dead heading your roses by the end of September to force them into deeper dormancy. Mild winters have caused roses to not become as dormant as desired. A bonus is if you have Rugosa roses, they will produce beautiful hips and adorn plants through winter.



Rose weevils and curculios chew holes at the bases of buds then lay their eggs within. When larvae hatch, they eat their way through flower buds and petals. The only control for these pests is to disbud plants as if deadheading.



Rose slugs are the larvae of a wasp which eats the rose leaves until the leaf is full of holes and looks like a piece of lace. Spray with **Safer® Yard and Garden Spray**, **Malathion**, **Bonide® Captain Jack's DeadBug Brew®** (Spinosad) or **Monterey Take Down Garden Spray**.



You may also notice activity by leaf cutter bees, which remove neat, semi-circular notches from the margins of leaves. Disregard this activity. These notches are harmless, and the leaf cutter bee is extremely beneficial in the garden.

Do not spray herbicides such as Round-Up within 100 feet of roses even in the winter. If weeds appear in rose beds, hand-dig or use a tool such as a hula-hoe to remove. Then sprinkle **Concern® All-Natural Weed Prevention Plus®** over the entire area.



Powdery Mildew appears as whitish splotches on the surface of leaves and on buds and stems. To control powdery mildew, use **Safer® Brand Garden Fungicide II** or **Bonide® Sulfur Plant Fungicide**. Should these measures prove unsatisfactory use **Bonide® Fung-onil™**. At this late date, when the roses are about to lose all their leaves, it is, therefore, unnecessary to spray. (See our [Care Guide on Treating Common Rose Diseases](#).)

Rust appears as small yellow to black spots on the upper surface of leaves, which, when flipped, show rust-colored pustules. Same advice as for "powdery mildew" listed above.



Leaves with any disease should not be composted. Instead dispose of them in the trash pickup.

SHRUBS & VINES



To promote bud development in (1) Rhododendrons, (2) Camellia Japonica and (3) Azaleas, fertilize now with **Master Nursery® Master Bloom** (0-10-10). Camellia show-people add a bit of **blood meal** currently. Our large fall shipment of camellias has arrived. There are shrub, tree and espaliered forms, most in five-gallon containers. Choose from Camellia japonica or some of the hybrids. The (4) Sasanquas bloom before Christmas. They have multitudes of mostly single or double flowers and can take almost full sun. The Japonicas bloom after Christmas, have larger, more complex flowers and thrive in filtered sun or at most a couple of hours of direct sun. The hybrids tend more toward the Sasanquas. All require the same care. (See our [Azalea, Camellia and Rhododendron Care Guide](#).)

If your **gardenias** show brown buds which drop off before opening, the cause is probably thrips. Use **Bayer Advanced™ Tree and Shrub Protect and Feed Insecticide** once a year if the plant is in the ground or twice a year in a container. Do not use this insecticide for food plants or for flowering plants visited by bees. Bees do not visit gardenias.



Keep in mind that gardenias need an acid soil. Mulch yearly with **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** and apply **Iron Sulfate** Valentine's Day and 4th of July. Many people grow their gardenias in part shade and are disappointed by the poor flowering.



Four of the fastest growing shrubs for hedges and screens are (1) Black-twig pittosporum, (2) Pittosporum eugenoides, (3) red-tip photinia and (4) purple hopseed bush. Left unpruned, each will reach approximately 20 feet tall and wide, but each can be maintained at six to eight feet if desired. Remember to prune newly planted hedges seasonally, even if lightly. This will encourage plants to be bushy and dense.

Hydrangeas: It's too early to prune your hydrangeas but you should apply **aluminum sulphate (Master Nursery® Hydra Blue)** during the first part of November and the next four months if you want to intensify the blue color. Use oyster shell lime to intensify pink colors. You cannot change blue to pink or pink to blue. (See our [Hydrangea Care Guide](#).)





Now is the time to watch for evidence of thrips and black vine weevil on rhododendrons and azaleas. Thrips damage appears as a mottling or bleaching of the upper surfaces of leaves and small, glossy black dots on the undersides of leaves. Weevils leave distinctive notches along leaf margins as they feed. Both can be controlled with **Spinosad**, **Malathion** or **Seven**. The weevils can also be controlled with **Beneficial Nematodes** applied in April.



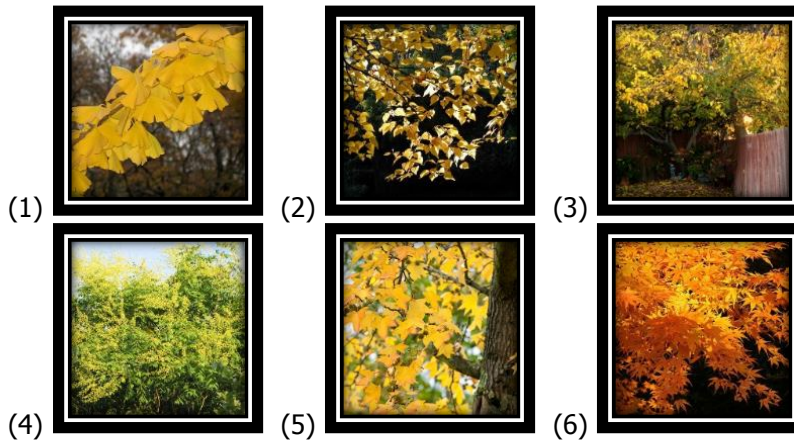
Azaleas: If the flowers on your azaleas turned brown last year, spray the buds with **Bonide® Fung-onil™** before they begin to show color. (See our [Care Guide for Azaleas](#).)

TREES

Now is the time to select trees for their fall color.



REDS: (1) dogwood, (2) Japanese maple varieties. Some reds that flash orange as well are (3) Chinese pistachio, (4) crape myrtle, and (5) Liquidambar 'Palo Alto' or (6) Liquidambar 'Festival'.



YELLOWS: (1) ginkgo, (2) birch, (3) fruitless mulberry, (4) golden rain tree, (5) liquidambar varieties and (6) coral bark maple.



BURGUNDY: (1) Raywood ash, (2) flowering pear, and (3) liquidambar burgundy.



JAPANESE MAPLES: Famous for their brilliant fall colors. The red-leaf Japanese maple varieties such as 'Bloodgood' and 'Moonfire' display bright scarlet tones. *Acer palmatum*, the wild species, displays unmatched bright red, yellow and orange tones on the same tree. Coral bark maple produces bright yellow leaves.



Be sure to dispose of leaves infected with powdery mildew in trash bins. Do not compost! Most of our home compost piles reach a sufficient temperature to break down food and yard waste, but not the temperature (140°F+) required destroying harmful fungi and bacteria. **In both San Mateo and Santa Clara counties, the olive fruit fly** has infested many olive trees, rendering fruit unusable for home curing. If you're thinking of home curing olives, be sure to have fruit checked for maggots. Next year, use olive fruit fly traps and lures to control the olive fruit fly.

If you are considering having **specimen trees** pruned, we strongly encourage you to seek certified arborists. While you will pay more for their work, you can be assured that the longevity of your trees will not be compromised by poor practices such as topping.

If you have a particularly valuable or important coast live oak tree on your property, you probably should have it sprayed to prevent **sudden oak death**. This is especially true if you also have California Bay Laurel trees on the property or live near forested areas such as Huddart Park or Woodside. You can have the work done by reputable firms or do it yourself. The only product listed to spray for this disease is **Agri-Fos® Systemic Fungicide** which has recently been approved for sale and is available at Wegman's. Until new information develops, spraying should be done every year.

VEGETABLES AND HERBS

Plant your winter garden. Prepare soil by covering it with one to two inches of **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** and scattering **Master Nursery® Master Start** at the rate of one pound per 50 square feet. Dig or till in five to six inches deep unless you have been using the garden regularly, then no tilling is necessary. It's okay to rake **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** in an inch or two. Fertilize the garden with **Master Nursery® Tomato and Vegetable Food** after about four weeks.

Plant onion seedlings from cell-packs or from a bunch of 25. Prepare beds by adding one to two inches of **Master Nursery® Gold Rush** and double-digging or rototilling to eight to 10 inches unless the garden has been used regularly (see above).

Cool season greens, such as lettuce, spinach, cilantro, chard, and mustard can be planted by seed or from starts at this time. See our [Winter Vegetable Gardening Care Guide](#). Plant these vegetables at two- or three-week intervals so they don't ripen all at once.

Herbs (biennial and perennial) can be planted now to become established for spring and summer harvest. Plant: chives, marjoram, oregano, parsley, rosemary, thyme and sage. Remember that marjoram, oregano, rosemary, thyme and sage are shrubs and should have a permanent, sunny place.) See our [Herbs Care Guide](#).

You may plant; cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, and other cole crops, from starts being sure to space them 12-18 inches apart. Try kohlrabi and bok choy for deliciously different tastes. Rutabaga, parsnips and the other root vegetables can also be planted now from seed. See Wegman's [Winter Vegetable Gardening Care Guide](#) for more information.

When string beans have finished, replace them with your favorite peas from seed. Plant two to three seeds in each hole, about 12 inches apart. Bush peas will bear sooner but pole peas will bear more pods for a longer time. Peas can also be planted from starts at this time. Be sure to plant in 12-inch intervals.

If you have **small potatoes** (one to two-inch diameter) left from your summer crop, they can be planted now to provide potatoes early next year.

Cole crops, especially Brussels sprouts, are very susceptible to aphids and cabbage butterfly caterpillars. Control caterpillars with **Safer® Caterpillar Killers** and aphids with **Bonide® Captain Jack's DeadBug Brew®**, **Safer® Brand Insect Killing Soap** or **Safer® Yard and Garden Spray**.

If you decide to not have a winter garden, seed the area with a cover crop of leguminous plants (fava beans, peas, etc.) and mustard.

Special services available from Wegman's...

Sharp pruning tools make clean cuts that heal quickly. Check out our Pruning Tool Renovation Service, which includes cleaning and sharpening and replacing missing parts for pruners. If you're unsure whether we can service your tool, bring it in for assessment.

Ideas for special situations...

Containers and Tropical Plants



- 1) Pull containerized tender and tropical plants (hardy to 25-30°F), such as Mandevilla, trumpet flower (Brugmansia) and bougainvillea, close to the house for protection during the cold months.
- 2) Hold off fertilizing deciduous container plants until February.
- 3) Consider watering indoor plants with a solution of two tablespoons of vinegar to one gallon of water once a month in order to reduce salt build-up and soil alkalinity.

Consider planting cover crops in unused garden spaces. Cover crops keep soil from compacting during winter rains and add much needed nitrogen to the soil when turned into beds in the spring. Popular cover crops include fava beans, which are also edible, and strawberry and red clover. We also carry **Winter Cover Crop** which includes fava beans, common vetch, field peas and Cayuse oats. Prepare soil as for vegetables. Snap peas and pod peas work well and then you can eat them.

LIQUID FENCE® Deer & Rabbit Repellent has proven to be extremely effective in deterring deer from yards and gardens. The trick is to use it *exactly* as instructed.

Bonide® MoleMax® Mole & Vole Repellent has proven to be effective in ridding yards and gardens of gophers and moles. The secret, again, is to follow the instructions *exactly* as instructed. **Bonide® MoleMax® Mole & Vole Repellent** will not kill the pests but rather chases them someplace else.

When the flower buds on your holiday cactus are one-quarter to three-eighths of an inch long, it's time to bring them indoors for holiday bloom. If you wait until they start to show color, the buds will drop-off indoors. (More information will be provided in our December newsletter pertaining to the different varieties of holiday cactus.)

Have you remembered to provide water for the birds visiting your garden? They eat up to their weight in bugs each week if they become permanent residents.

If you have started a compost pile, pumpkins don't compost very well unless they are chopped up into half inch pieces.